

**Leadership Team, Mount Comfort Church  
October 12, 2021**

**Champions of Who We Were | Representatives of Who We Are | Leaders of Who We Are Becoming**

**Present, Leadership Team Members:** Sandy Abel, Ron Arthur, Sandi Hudson, Megan Jones, Reverend Ethan Maple, Jack McKinney, Rose McKinney, Chris Sexton, Christine Sturgis, Tim Waymire, Kristy Willhelm.

**Also Present:** Shawn Matney. **Absent:** John Bundy, Mary Ann Crisman, Kathy Lee, Deric Roberts.

The meeting of the Mt. Comfort Church (MCC) Leadership Team was called to order at 7:02 p.m. at the church's Mt. Comfort Campus. Rev. Ethan Maple opened with prayer.

**LOVE & LEARN** –Leading discussion from the team's study of LEAD, Shawn Matney presented Restoration, and Rose McKinney presented Longevity.

**By the Numbers**

**Financials** – Church Income/Expenses for September: \$33,042.34/\$33,934.94, with net income (\$892.60). Joyful Days Preschool and Childcare Income/Expenses for September: \$27,236.00/\$19,943.64, with net income \$7,292.36.

General Fund Balance = \$32,806.50. Joyful Days Balance = \$35,414.65.

Restricted Accounts = Discipleship \$7,805.44, Missions \$20,843.42, Facility \$446,038.71, Rainy Day \$51,921.38. Legacy Gift Balance = \$227,250.

**Attendance, August**

Philly = 9/5 – 45 | 9/12 – 52 | 9/19 – 42 | 9/26 – 29. Average = 42

Mt. Comfort = 9/5 – 86 | 9/12 – 86 | 9/19 – 100 | 9/26 – 115. Average = 96.75

**Discussion Items**

**Mt. Comfort Campus Relocation Matrix** – Pastor Ethan presented a questionnaire in the form of a matrix to guide the thinking and decision-making of the Leadership Team regarding the possible sale of the Mount Comfort Campus property and relocation. He asked the team to be praying about this.

**2022 Leadership Team Meetings** – It was suggested to move our meetings to the second Tuesday, which would facilitate having complete financial reports. No objections were voiced.

**Hospitality monetary donations** – These will go in the General Fund and will be tracked.

**Discipleship Restricted Fund** – Pastor Ethan recommended that we include Discipleship in our overage equation of 5%. The consensus was to do this.

**Missions Recommendation** – The Missions Team met last month and has recommended that we establish a Comfort Cupboard at the Mount Comfort Campus, as people occasionally come to this church campus to request assistance. The prayer room would be converted for this purpose and would stock non-perishable food and personal hygiene kits. The consensus was to do this.

**Digital Access Questions/Process** – Pastor Ethan asked for feedback on the new digital entry system at the MtC. Response was positive. Access will need to be assigned for the leaders of the groups that meet, but remote access is possible by calling the designated contact person.

**Facility Projects** –Tim Waymire presented quotes for replacement of 17 windows for the Mt. Comfort Campus Family Life Center. The Window World quote gives a maximum cost of \$14,000 with all add-ons, or \$5,600 without add-ons. Chris Sexton moved, and Ron Arthur seconded to give Tim Waymire the authority to make a decision on window replacement and to negotiate the best price, not to exceed a total of \$8,000, with 50% of the funds coming from Joyful Days, 25% from Rainy Day fund, and 25% from the Facilities fund. The motion carried.

**Church Workday Projects** – People are asked to sign up to help at the church workday, October 23, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., at either the Philly or the Mt. Comfort campuses.

**UMC Disaffiliation** – Pastor Ethan presented the procedure for churches that choose to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. To disaffiliate, the Leadership Team must recommend it by a majority vote to the congregation; then, 2/3 of the members of the church congregation must approve disaffiliation at a Church Conference; the church must pay a disaffiliation fee, with Mt. Comfort Church required to pay \$275,000 to the

Indiana Conference. The General Conference sets the fee; the next General Conference is set for 2022; however, it is likely to be postponed. A disaffiliated church then must take over all of the things the UMC Conference provided – the church must hire its own pastor, create its own bylaws, establish its own 501(c)(3) status, etc.. The team discussed matters such as pastor’s pension and insurance and other details. Pastor Ethan requested that the team pray about this, and he will ask for feedback at November meeting.

2022 Budget – Pastor Ethan presented a 2022 draft budget, and he asked the team to study it and be prepared to vote at the November meeting. He and other staff members then departed the meeting so that pastoral and staff compensation could be discussed.

2022 Pastoral Compensation – Pastor Ethan’s pastoral compensation must be decided tonight, as this item must be submitted for our December Charge Conference. Megan Jones led the conversation. Kristy Willhelm moved, and Ron Arthur seconded to have 2022 pastoral compensation remain at 2021 level with the exception of a \$180 increase to the Church Health Insurance Portion as defined by the Conference. The motion carried.

**Ministry Check-In** – No reports.

**For the Good of the Church** –

Charge Conference, December 6, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., Drive-Thru at Rosedale Hills UMC.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m. with prayer. The next meeting is set for November 2 at 7:00 p.m. at our Mount Comfort Campus.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Hudson, Recorder