

Leadership Team, Mount Comfort Church, Inc.
October 10, 2023

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

Present, Leadership Team Members: Mary Ann Crisman, Annie Dawson, Becky Holm, Sandi Hudson, Kathy Lee, Ashley Litton, Reverend Ethan Maple, Marcia Piercy, Deric Roberts, Chris Sexton, Roger Skinner, Tim Waymire, Kristy Willhelm. **Also Present:** Shawn Matney, Crystal Maple. **Absent:** Megan Jones, Jim Winter.

LOVE & LEARN –Pastor Ethan opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Mt. Comfort Campus (MtC) by sharing the Fellowship of Christian Athletes’ (FCA) “Four O’s of Leadership”: Opportunity, Opposition, Obedience, Outcome. He then opened the business meeting with prayer.

LEAD

Affirm Email Approvals – By consensus, team members affirmed the following email motions, which were approved by a majority of Leadership Team members in email voting.

September Minutes Approval – The team affirmed the approval of the September 12, 2023, Leadership Team minutes.

Southern Hancock CLA – The team affirmed the approval of Pastor Ethan Maple’s participation in the Southern Hancock School District Community Leadership Academy (CLA).

The Comfort House Cell Phone – The team affirmed approval of the purchase of a cell phone and service for The Comfort House team members to use to receive emergency calls from referring organizations and guest families.

Open Path Scanner – The team affirmed approval of payment of an estimated \$885 for Flying Locksmith to relocate the Open Path scanner by the sanctuary door at our Mt. Comfort Campus in order to allow full accessibility for persons with disabilities to use the newly installed automatic doors.

Credit Card Increases – No increases were needed for September.

By the Numbers

Financials – Church Income/Expenses:

Mt. Comfort Church September Income/Expense | \$32,452.04 - \$33,452.04 = (\$1,429.75)

Joyful Days September Income/Expense | \$31,009- \$48,616.73 = (\$17,607.73)

General Fund Balance = \$48,029.25 | Joyful Days Balance = \$4,467.04

Restricted Accts: = Discipleship = \$19,423.95 | Missions = \$20,327.86 |

Facility = \$70,702.39| Rainy Day = \$88,884.70| Joyful Days = \$130,706.28

Attendance -- Philly/MtC = September 3 – 34/98 | September 10– 36/87 | September 17 – 36/102 |

September 24 – 40/93. **September Worship Average:** Philly = 36.5, MtC = 95, Combined Average: 131.5

Discussion Items

The Comfort House – Pastor Ethan provided a copy of the brochure, Information & Expectations, and asked for questions and comments. The variance for the zoning to allow the storage containers was approved with the condition that fencing be added to shield them from view of U.S. 40.

501(c)(3) Application Update – Pastor Ethan reported that a draft version will be mailed to us for approval, and after our approval, the attorney will file the church’s 501(c)(3) application with the IRS.

Joyful Days Handbook Approvals – Ashley Litton had previously emailed the Joyful Days Parent Handbook and Staff Handbook for the team to review and asked if anyone had questions. After discussion, Ashley Litton moved, and Deric Roberts seconded approval of the Joyful Days Parent and Staff Handbooks. The motion carried unanimously. Staff Handbooks will be presented to staff on November 2 and reviewed at a staff meeting and will take effect November 6.

Email Approval Process – Pastor Ethan discussed procedures for handling email approval items. Discussion: Establish a 48-hour window before a matter is considered approved or rejected and any action taken. Any matter that involves a long-term commitment or contract, make every effort to bring it to a meeting for discussion and a vote. If three or more people request the item be tables until our next scheduled meeting, then the matter will be added to the next agenda for discussion and a vote. Explore using a form in Google Docs for team members to post their votes and comments for email approval items.

Subsequently, Deric Roberts moved, and Becky Holm seconded that email approvals will be sent out with a Google Form for team member responses; 48-hours will transpire before any action taken; no email approvals will be done for any contract six months or longer. The motion carried unanimously.

2024 Budget Approval – Deric Roberts had previously emailed the 2024 Mt. Comfort Church Budget to team members for their review, noting that the Joyful Days budget would be a separate item. Budget highlights: 1% of the budget is unfunded, and if a shortfall occurs, the church may need to tap into savings to bridge the gap.

The budgeted income from all sources is flat. Increases in Administrative Costs (copier, software) reflect the run-rate on monthly operating expenses. The church van registration and maintenance costs have been added at an estimated expense of \$1,000/year; some of the operating costs of the van will be funded through a restricted account. The Comfort House expenses (gas, electric, cable/internet, emergency contact phone number cell service, etc.) will be funded through a restricted account in which the operating budget funds at \$600/month; trash service will be combined in the operating budget with campus dumpster fees. The Comfort House is included in the Missions & Outreach expenditures. After discussion, Kathy Lee moved, and Annie Dawson seconded approval of the 2024 Mt. Comfort Church Budget as presented, and the motion carried unanimously. Staff and personnel line items and the Joyful Days budget will be addressed at the November meeting.

Ministry Area Updates –

Discipleship – Mary Ann Crisman reported that ten women attended an overnight women’s retreat in Shipshewana, and everyone felt blessed and really appreciated being transported in the church van.

Air Show – As a fundraiser for the Youth Mission Trip, Mt. Comfort Church will offer parking at the Mt. Comfort Campus for people who want to view the airshow from the church parking lot at a cost of \$10.00 per vehicle on October 28 & 29. Concessions will be available for purchase. Two porta potty units and an outside handwashing station will be on site for the convenience of attendees. It was agreed that a portion of the proceeds will be designated for the church parking lot upkeep fund as determined by LSM leadership. Sunday worship on October 29 will be combined and will be at the Philly Campus at 10:00 a.m.

Congratulations and thanks to those who organized and worked the Fish Fry – it was a fantastic event. Pack Away Hunger will not occur at New Palestine UMC on Nov. 11 as previously announced. It is expected to be rescheduled for spring 2024, and Mt. Comfort Church (MCC) will participate at that time. Operation Christmas Child boxes are now available, and MCC also will have additional Christmas outreach efforts in the community.

The trash dumpster at the MtC sustained damage when someone used the church dumpster for unauthorized dumping of heavy materials. Damage occurred when the dumpster, which is not designed for heavy loads, was unloaded. We are waiting to see if Fisk Waste Removal Services will assess any additional charges for the damage.

Calendar

December Schedule: All events scheduled for the Mt. Comfort Church Campus at this time.

Dec. 2 – Holiday Bazaar	Dec. 17 – PJ Party	Dec. 31 – No In-Person Worship
Dec. 3 – Ladies’ Christmas Tea	Dec. 21 – Longest Night Service	
Dec. 10 – Christmas Concert	Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Service	

For the Good of the Church

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting is set for November 14, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hudson
Recorder