

Leadership Team, Mount Comfort Church, Inc.
February 6, 2024

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

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

LOVE & LEARN –Pastor Ethan opened the meeting with prayer at 7:00 p.m. at the Mt. Comfort Campus (MtC) and followed with a discussion of the article, “7 Church Trends That Will Disrupt 2024” by Carey Nieuwhof. Discussion focused on more connection with Joyful Days Preschool and Childcare by building bridges and having conversations with the parents. Millennials (ages 28 – 43 in 2024) are the new core of the church – a suggestion was to ask Millennials how our church can meet their needs. Gen Z (ages 12 – 27 in 2024) will start to reshape the church -- a suggestion was to maintain connections with our college students and perhaps have a church family “adopt” college students and send them cards, notes, or gifts at college.

LEAD

Approval of January Minutes – Marcia Piercy moved, and Annie Dawson seconded approval of the minutes of the January 9, 2024, meeting. The motion carried.

Affirm Email Approvals – None.

Credit Card Increases – No increases were needed for December.

By the Numbers:

January Income/Expense | \$32,879.19 – \$37,520.34 = (\$4,641.15)

Joyful Days January Income/Expense | \$42,230 - \$34,222.99 = \$8,712.01

General Fund Balance = \$55,271.96| Joyful Days Balance = \$14,996.33

Restricted Accts = Discipleship = \$24,384.09| Missions = \$23,262.17|

Facility = \$78,942.68| Rainy Day = \$68,471.38| Joyful Days = \$97,852.19

Pastor Ethan clarified the budget categories for the Profit & Loss Budget Performance report and the team discussed the best way to track and report The Comfort House expenses.

Attendance -- Philly/MtC = January 7 – 48/78 | January 14– 29/59 | January 21 – 38/80 |

January 28– 43/100.

January Worship Average: Philly = 39.5 MtC = 79.25 Combined Average: 118.75

Discussion Items

Follow-up Items – Pastor provided follow-up on the following items. *501(c)(3) Application* – Submitted to the IRS. The church received an invoice for the final bill and Pastor Ethan has requested a detailed bill.

Community Foundation of Hancock County Grant (CFHC) – Letter of Intent has been submitted with a matching grant request for \$9,000 for sound improvement for acoustic panels and for a simple sound amplification system for the Mt. Comfort Campus Fellowship Hall. *Toilets and Grab bars at Philly campus* – Project in process. *The Comfort House* – No vacancies – two families now reside there. *HVAC meeting* – February 8 at 10:00 a.m. with Right-a-Way to discuss their proposal.

Church Directory Update – Roger Skinner reported that he and Mary Ann Crisman have been reviewing vendors and are making progress.

Policies & Procedures – Pastor Ethan reported that the committee has met and will begin working on the following policies to present to the Leadership Team for review and adoption: Employee Handbook, Kids & Youth, Finances/Stewardship, and Facility. We are using templates as the springboard for policy development.

Missions Team Updates – Pastor Ethan announced plans for a Missions Breakfast on Saturday, March 9, 8:30 a.m. at the Mt. Comfort Campus. The Missions Team will be increasing communications and providing tangible reminders to the church family. The June fifth Sunday will be the Youth reporting on their trip. In September we will have two young adults reporting on their work with youth mission trips. He also presented a request for \$2,500 to be paid from the Missions restricted account for the Missions Breakfast and to purchase two iPads to create a resource station for each campus to help people connect to community resources or find places to volunteer; and to purchase silicone wrist bands to support missionaries we support. Roger Skinner moved, and Jim Winter seconded approval of \$2,500 for the mission projects as presented. The motion carried.

Discipleship Update – Pastor Ethan reported that the Lighthouse Student Ministry is moving forward with Matt Thompaon and Alicia Petrow, and seventeen youth attended a concert in Indianapolis last weekend.

Small groups – A four-week study with Pastor Ethan, “Why Easter Matters, the High Cost of Following Christ” by Andy Stanley, begins February 26 at the Philly campus. We have short-term studies during Lent and Advent. The Journey groups are expanding from meeting in homes to meeting at the Philly campus. We also have two adult Sunday School classes that meet at the MtC. Pastor Ethan will be starting Immersion groups that have a reading plan and videos they can watch on their own. The goal is that reading scripture in community will have a greater impact than reading it on your own. The women’s group and men’s group will also continue.

Joyful Days Report – Ashley Litton reviewed the report that she emailed to the team prior to the meeting. She explained that her reports will be including information about income, child enrollment, staffing, training, and activities. She asked for input on an April 19 field trip to the Murat Shrine Circus, as the cost will be \$1 per person. Pastor Ethan asked Ashley to survey the parents as to their interest in going on the field trip, as parents would have to provide transportation, and report back to the team in March. Pastor Ethan asked for Ashley to report on capacity that our facility will accommodate.

Calenda/Upcoming Events

Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes – February 14, 5 – 6:00 p.m. at the Philly Campus. Chili Supper and Dessert Auction -- February 18, 5:00 p.m., Mt. Comfort Campus. March 28 – Maundy Thursday, Open Communion at Philly. March 29 – Good Friday service. March 30 – Easter Egg Hunt. March 31 – Easter Sunday.

For the Good of the Church

The AED battery died, and we had to replace battery and pads at a cost of \$400. The Fire Dept. suggested we purchase an additional unit for the FLC – used cost \$700. Solar Eclipse, April 8 – do we want to have a church event? April 28 – Pastor Ethan will be out of town, and Rev. Mark Thompson will preach at both campuses. With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:35 p.m. The next meeting is set for March 5, 2024, the first Tuesday of the month.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hudson
Recorder