

**Leadership Team, Mount Comfort Church, Inc.  
March 5, 2024**

**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, Megan Jones, Kathy Lee, Reverend Ethan Maple, Marcia Piercy, Chris Sexton, Roger Skinner, Tim Waymire, Kristy Wilhelm, Jim Winter. **Also Present:** Shawn Matney. **Absent:** Annie Dawson, Ashley Litton, Deric Roberts.

**LOVE & LEARN** –Pastor Ethan opened the meeting with prayer at 7:00 p.m. at the Mt. Comfort Campus (MtC) and followed with a continued discussion of the article, “7 Church Trends That Will Disrupt 2024” by Carey Nieuwhof. Discussion focused on the following topics: discipleship with digital components, partisan extremism, AI adoption in growing churches, and a new kind of megachurch pastor.

**LEAD**

**Approval of February** Minutes – Becky Holm moved, and Roger Skinner seconded approval of the corrected minutes of the February 6, 2024, meeting. The motion carried.

**Affirm Email Approvals** – None.

**Credit Card Increases** – No increases were needed for February.

**By the Numbers:**

February Income/Expense | \$39,688.58 – \$34,650.36= \$5,038.22

Joyful Days February Income/Expense | \$38,722.82 - \$41,445.99 = (\$2,723.17) [Note: Program is “in the black,” per the Director’s report.]

General Fund Balance = \$55,537.64| Joyful Days Balance = \$12,273.16

Restricted Accts = Discipleship = \$25,872.49 | Missions = \$24,300.57

Facility = \$81,019.79 | Rainy Day = \$70,548.19 | Joyful Days = \$97,888.34

**Attendance -- Philly/MtC** = February 4 – 46/90 | February 11– 43/89 | February 18 – 36/96 |February 25– 36/101.

**Worship Average:** Philly = 40.25 MtC = 94 Combined Average: 134.25

**Discussion Items**

**TD Ameritrade Controllers** – Shawn Matney explained that TD Ameritrade was acquired by Charles Schwab, Inc. We must designate some persons to be the Controllers of the account. Mary Ann Crisman moved to name Roger Skinner Controller on the MCC Schwab account; Jim Winter seconded, and the motion carried. Megan Hunter moved, and Becky Holm seconded naming Chris Sexton as a Controller on the Schwab MCC account; the motion carried.

**Community Foundation of Hancock County** – Mt. Comfort Church submitted a Letter of Intent but did not receive an invitation to apply for a 2024 community grant.

**Facilities Update** –Pastor Ethan presented a two-phased proposal for the Mt. Comfort Campus from Right-A-Way: Mt. Comfort Church HVAC Plan 2024. The proposal is to prepare MCC for the upcoming federally mandated changes to convert systems to a new refrigerant, which is not compatible with the church’s current HVAC setup. The January 2024 plan totals \$23,817.90, and the April 2024 plan totals \$63,345.15. Purchases include four 10-ton AC units, seven 5-ton indoor coils, and one 5-ton AC unit, including installation and warranties. Suggestions including conducting a church capital campaign to help offset the cost and to divide the cost among church restricted funds. Chris Sexton moved, and Jim Winter seconded to accept the Mt. Comfort Church HVAC Plan 2024 quote for the Mt. Comfort Campus from Right-A-Way, paid from the Facilities (\$30k), Joyful Days (\$30k), and Rainy Day (\$27,165) restricted accounts. The motion carried.

**Hot Water** – Shawn Matney asked for hot water to be added to the plumbing in the church work room sink at the Mt. Comfort Campus. As it is now, anyone who needs hot water must go to the Family Life Center kitchen, which should not be done when the Joyful Days childcare program is using the facility. The consensus was to approve the purchase and installation of an under-sink water heater at a cost below \$500.

**Philly** -- Mary Ann Crisman expressed thanks and appreciation for the Philly Campus upgrades.

AEDs for MtC Family Life Center & Philly Campus – Following up on a need to have Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) readily accessible at both campuses, Pastor Ethan reported a total cost of approximately \$1,750 to purchase and mount two used AEDs. Jim Winter moved, and Becky Holm seconded approval of \$1,750 for the purchase and installation of two used AED's to be installed at the Philly Campus and in the Family Life Center lobby/gym at the Mt. Comfort Campus.

Lighthouse Student Ministry Update – Mary Ann Crisman reported that 15-20 youth are participating in Lighthouse Student Ministry. Noah Maple has been assisting and also has been training students to operate church technology. Matt Thompson and Alicia Petrow are transitioning into their roles as devotion leaders, and Mary Ann noted they were good role models for the grades 7-12 youth.

Church Directory Update – Roger Skinner and Mary Ann Crisman reported on their church directory research and recommended Re:Member Church Directories for the vendor. Every company requires 75 households to participate in order to distribute a free directory to those who participate. If 75 do not participate in the photo sittings, the church must make up the deficit by paying \$25 per household to reach 75. It was suggested that before MCC contracts with a vendor that we first gauge the interest of the congregation by asking people to sign up if they wish to participate in a photography sitting for a church directory.

Missions/Outreach & The Comfort House – Nine non-profits will present in break-out sessions as part of the Missions Breakfast on March 9 at the MtC. The Comfort House currently is housing two guest families, who will likely be there through the end of the school year.

Philly Campus Pews – The pews at the Philly Campus are showing wear, and several are ripped. The pews need to be reupholstered or replaced with chairs. It will cost \$19,000 - \$20,000 to reupholster the pews. It will cost \$8 - \$9,000 to replace the pews with 100 armless chairs and 25 chairs with arm rests. The matter will be decided at a future meeting.

Policies & Procedures Update – Pastor Ethan reported that the goal is to have a draft of the Mt. Comfort Church Personnel Handbook for review at the April meeting.

#### **Calendar/Upcoming Events**

March 9 – Missions Breakfast at Mt. Comfort Campus (MtC), 8:30 a.m. March 28 – Maundy Thursday, Open Communion at Philly, 6 – 7:00 p.m. March 29 – Good Friday service at MtC, 7:00 p.m. March 30 – Community Easter Egg Hunt at MtC, 10:00 a.m. March 31 – Easter Sunday worship, 9:00 a.m. Philly and 10:45 a.m., MtC. April – Immersion Groups begin, Mondays at Philly, 7:00 p.m. and Thursdays (for women) at MtC, 6:30 p.m. April 28 – Rev. Mark Thompson will speak at both campuses.

#### **For the Good of the Church**

The team discussed the Eclipse on April 8. Mt. Comfort Church is not planning to offer parking or a community event. It is expected that many cars will be pulling off the road to view the eclipse, so we may want to block the entrances to our parking lot for liability reasons.

Chris Sexton proposed a car show and Fish Fry on September 14. It was suggested that this event not conflict with the McCordsville UMC annual event, Lord's Acre.

The Dessert Auction/Chili Supper shows gross receipts of \$3,097.92. Roger Skinner moved, and Mary Ann Crisman seconded that from the profits, we designate \$500 to Joyful Days and the remainder to the Youth Mission Trip. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hudson  
Recorder