



GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

November 14, 2016

Kathy Breazeale
Wally Loague
Bob McKnight

Bruce Lindgren
Bruce Lawrie
Roger Curless

Pastor John Bell
Fred Neuman

Worship & Lighting of the Christ Candle

For worship the midday Methodist Prayer resource from www.methodistprayer.org was used. This included Words of Praise, scripture from Old and New Testaments and individual prayers for intercession and thanksgiving.

The website has morning prayers, midday prayers, evening prayers and night prayers as well as a guide for fasting.

What Can We Celebrate Since Last We Met

- Review of the minutes from October 10, 2016

The minutes have been placed on the website for congregational review.

- Responses to the Annual Conversation Process

Members of the Governing Board are elected for a one year term. Towards the end of each year there is a conversation with the pastor and board chair reviewing the year, the work of the board and whether God is continuing to call the member to continue to serve on the Governing Board or in some other capacity at Wesley. The conversations were completed last week and everyone will be nominated for continuation on the Governing Board. This is a response to feeling God calling each to continue with the work that has been started.

With regards to the process the feedback was positive. The questions used were thought provoking as was the initial interview process. The consensus was that the process of interviews and conversations about being called to do the work was so much better than the nominations process of trying to find people who might take a position.

There remain two unfilled slots for the Governing Board.

What do we need to accomplish in our time together today?

- Annual Church Conference

The Annual Church Conference will be on Sunday, January 15, 2017. There will be a light luncheon and then the all church conference. There will need to be a setting of pastor compensation, election of the Governing Board, election of the Endowment Committee, Lay Servant Ministries reports and an annual report by the Governing Board on its work. For the Board the functional groups (SPRC, Finance, Trustees) should each have a section. Each of the ministry coordinators should complete a section on their work over the past year. Everything is due by **December 15, 2016** so that there is time to put it all together for the church conference. The theme of the report will be "A Road Well Traveled" in keeping with our automotive stewardship theme. An outline for the final document has been developed and shared.

- Suggestions for Governing Board Nominations

There are two open slots and all of us are challenged to see with whom we might discuss the possibility of coming on the board. The idea of looking to people who could be mentored into new leadership positions was discussed.

- Our Ministry Areas

Discipleship

- Current focus is on activities for Advent. All levels of the congregation will be able to be engaged.
- A series of new member classes will begin after the first of the year.

Outreach

- No update on finding a new coordinator.
- Gifts ministry with People for Childcare is in place.

Worship

- Advent series – Redemption of Scrooge
- Christmas Day is on Sunday. One service – Rich Rubietta will be here to lead. New Year's Day will also be on Sunday with one service.
- Much of the worship for 2017 is planned.
- November 20th worship will have the artist and the picture commissioned by Wesley to celebrate Tracy Smith Malone's election to bishop.

Congregational Care

- Cards for shut-ins season.

Administration

- A volunteer appreciation luncheon is planned for the hospitality volunteers.
- The new Administrative Coordinator has started
- Payroll for the church, which includes the nursery school is in the process of being moved to an agency to do the processes and taxes. There is a minimal cost but the efficiency and assurances of on time tax payments, etc., make it worthwhile.

Our Administrative Areas

Finance

- Third quarter statements did go out but there are still issues from the conversion of systems.
- Results of the Stewardship Campaign are in the preliminary stages.
- The Coordinators have started working on the 2017 budget for their areas.
- Offering letters for Thanksgiving and Christmas will be going out. Funds received are for missions and are directed to completing the payment of apportionments.

Trustees

Endowment Policy

- The Endowment Policy has been adopted and will be presented to the Church Conference in January.
- Safe Sanctuaries – Updating the policy has become more complicated than once thought because of the social media additions. Wally and Wendy Connell are working on it.
- There are several building needs and Pastor John and the Administrative Coordinator are working their way through them in consultation with the board's Trustees.
- The question was raised regarding using undesignated funds from the endowment and how they could be used at year end if cash flow became an issue. Considering that the new policy has not been adopted it was decided that the Governing Board with guidance from Pastor John would make the determination.

Staff Parish Relations Committee

- The Staff-Parish Committee met with Pastor John to consider compensation for 2017. The Governing Board received and affirmed the recommendations for 3% increase in base salary and a 2% increase for merit. This raises the base to \$52,605. The housing allowance will remain at \$22,800 and the reimbursables at \$5,000 for a total package of \$79,100. The package will be presented to the Church Conference.
- With the additions of the Administrative Coordinator and new Church Musician the staff is at full compliment.

What challenges, obstacles, risks are we facing? What or Who at Wesley needs our prayers today?

- We are still in need of a secretary for the Board.
 - We need to elect two lay members of the Annual Conference at the Church Conference in January.
- The meeting closed in prayer for members and friends of the Wesley family and for a request that God continue to bless the work of this church.

Next Meeting: December 12, 2016 – 2:00 PM at Wesley.