



GOVERNING BOARD MEETING by ZOOM

June 8, 2020

Kathy Breazeale Jim Merk Bob McKnight
Roger Curless Pastor John
Wally Loague Mary Terrell

Worship –We each lit a candle at home. Wally Led worship. We light our candles today as a symbol that the light of Jesus burns in each of us. Oh God, call us into the good work.

The Adept Church Book Study

Our discussion was postponed this week due to discussion about vandalism to our Pride flag and what our response will be. Below is an adjusted study schedule.

May 18th – Jim – the Intro and Chapter 1

May 25th – Memorial Day, no meeting

June 8 – John – chapter 2

June 15 – Bob – Chapter 3

June 22 – Wally – Chapter 4

June 29 – Kathy – Chapter 5

Trustees

It is probably best for building temperature and humidity control in the sanctuary that the air conditioner be run several days a week during the summer to avoid moisture and heat buildup that could also affect new sound system.

All Church Calling and Contacts and Survey

John reported that we have collected 52 responses. 63% watch worship live online. 14 % do not. 27% said they do both. John has the statistics on the other survey questions and will send them to the Board.

Re-Opening Strategy

Vandalism to Pride Banner

Banner is completely down, piping is ruined. We will need to look at some sort of Permanent installation, much higher up. Another option would be to fly the Methodist Inclusion flag all year or a regular flagpole. We need to reassure that the building is secure protected in different ways.

Pride Parade – will be a drive by and Sun Jun 14. Out property will have quilts arounds trees.

Racism and George Floyd's murder discussed

Pastor John attended a demonstration where a demand list was presented. Alderwomen Hart is working to present to the city. There will be a 2-hour peace rally at the Aurora AME church Sunday. Pastor John has talked to their Pastor Jesse Hawkins. We need to learn ways to keep pressure on Alderman and Mayor, and pressure on the police. We need to help our people find ways to be a part of these efforts. Their yard can hold 300 safely and with social distancing. Pastor John commented that a 19-year-old was arrested for a car fire in Montgomery. How do we act to bring change to that kind of energy – to be used for good. The church should always be a place to gather in safety to discuss any issue. Our church and its groups need to connect with organizations and information on how to do this.

Pastor John would like to see the murals that are now in downtown Aurora preserved with help from the Aurora Art commission and become part of a of a Social Justice display and meeting place.

The White church cannot stay silent. We need to lead the push for reform and change. Wesley UMC need to make our presence known.

Mary Terrell presented the mantra **ERASE THE FEAR.**

Roger said an excellent resource for protesting is Martin Luther King's "10 Commandments of Protesting" written from the Birmingham jail.

Communion during the Pandemic

According to discipline guidelines, this is the Pastor's call with The Governing Board's support. There are many different options and choices that have to be researched and studied.

Re-Opening our Building

We have a taskforce that will be meeting. We need to speak to all the needs of all the groups such as Nursery School, Boy Scouts, FVSRA, etc. and we need to address how to meet state and church guidelines for worship.

6 Planning Areas to keep before us

#1 Reinvigorating the Chapel – finished – but celebration and rededication to be held.

#2 Congregational Gatherings – postponed

#3 January 2020 – Response to General Council developments – postponed until

Reconvened General Council – date unknown

#4 Communication Process – using Conference staff – postponed

#5 Building Community – Could continue now using social media?

#6 Energize Worship/Participation – postponed until we can gather together

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Closing

Roger closed the meeting with prayer. Wally will do worship next meeting.

Next Zoom meeting: June 15, 2020