



GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

May 22, 2017

Kathy Breazeale
Bob McKnight
Bruce Lindgren

Pastor John Bell
Wally Loague
Roger Curless

Fred Neuman
Bruce Laurie
Mary Terrell

Welcome to Mary Terrell as she joins the Governing Board.

Worship & Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Christ candle was lit and opening prayers were offered. For ongoing worship the Methodist Prayer resource from www.methodistprayer.org for the day was used. The scriptures were Psalm 30, Psalm 139 and Zephaniah 3:14-18.

What Can We Celebrate Since Last We Met

- Review of the minutes from April 17, 2017.

The minutes from April are ready to be placed on the website for congregational review.

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

- Ministry Review – The majority of the meeting involved the ministry review with Pastor John. The Governing Board, acting as the Staff-Parish Committee of the whole completed the Ministry Review which is required each year. The Board had met to complete the first part of the review. This process involved adding Pastor John's input to the review.

Kathy offered to consolidate the changes and have the form submitted by the May 30 due date.

- AU Intern – ABCD Discussion – After an interview with Pastor John, Gary Hougen and Roger and then meeting with the ministry coordinators and offer was made and accepted by a second-year graduate social work student from Aurora University. Each semester will provide 300 hours of internship. The focus of the internship will be the implementation of an Asset Based Community Development ministry which will take Wesley into its neighborhood to begin learning what needs may be there and how Wesley can become a center to match community resources with community needs. More information about the start date and the process for sharing with the congregation will come later.

- Immigrant Welcoming Congregations – The General Board of Church and Society has a designation for congregations that are Immigrant Welcoming. Given all the work that is done at Wesley with immigrants and refugees it is something that could be pursued. Currently there are no designated Immigrant Welcoming congregations in the Northern Illinois Conference. It was agreed to send the documentation to the General Board.

- Response to Articles

There are two articles from publications regarding congregational growth and renewal:

“Church has No Walls but Many Doors, Accessible to Seekers and Skeptics”

“A Dying Texas Church Gives Life to a New Congregation”

Both articles are available and Board members agreed to look them over for a conversation at subsequent meetings.

Our Ministry Areas:

The ministry coordinators are continuing to build lists of people at Wesley with varying levels of involvement. The goal will be to find ways to further engage people in the ministries of the church.

Our Administrative Areas

- Finances

A set of financial reports were received with both a detailed document and an overview. The reporting is still being worked to give the Board an overview of current financials. There is also an overview document that will made available to those in the congregation wishing to review financial progress.

Additional Items for Next Meeting:

-- Registration for Annual Conference Stewardship Summit

Next meeting dates:

Monday, June 19, 2017