

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING by ZOOM

April 20, 2020

Kathy BreazealeJim MerkBob McKnightRoger CurlessPastor JohnWally LoagueMary TerrellJenny Pawlowski

Worship –We each lit a candle at home. Roger presented a video of Easter Celebration in UMC churches around the world.

Minutes of our last meeting are posted on the website.

Discussion of YouTube church and activities

Due to the problematic use of YouTube (loading issues, use of licensed music and commercials popping up) we will be switching on April 26 to a free platform used by many other churches. Lots of emails will be going out to everyone several times this week to prepare the congregation and friends for this change. This program gathers many more analytics.

Stimulus Fund

The GoFundMe page is launched and active.

Discussion of Managing Cash Flow

We reviewed the Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss and Budget vs actual figures. Offerings have been coming in by mail of EFT, but we are not receiving payments from our Space Sharing partners, People for Childcare, Fox Valley Special Recreational Association and the Wesley nursery School. Due to the stock market fluctuations, the Endowment has had a large drop also. We may need to look at Memorial Funds to check to see if anyone connected to memorial money was requesting anything be done at this time. We received \$1000.00 from the Easter offering which will be used to pay our Apportionments. So far this year we have paid \$8000.00 toward are apportionments. John commented that he hopes we continue to pay what we can because the NIC has a large deficit due to not receiving much money in these times. We had appealed our amount assessed and they have accepted the new amount of \$47,100.00.

Expenses are down because of no purchases of office supplies for running bulletins and lower use of utilities. There have been no problems processing payroll.

Jenny is still looking into different banks to see if we can qualify and receive payments from the new government Small Business program that was available, but then ran out of money, but might be available again.

We will need to have a discussion about how much we are going to authorize borrowing from the endowment in order to pay our expenses if the Stay at Home order remains in effect for a much longer time.

Is there a way to offer communion to the Congregation?

After much discussion about how we all miss communion and what ways are acceptable to church Discipline – who can perform, who can consecrate the elements, the training that is required for other persons to do it, doing it digitally, and the fact that in the Circuit Rider days, congregations had to wait the 3 months between their visits to celebrate the Eucharist, we decided to postpone decisions about this for the present time. The suggestion about having The Love Feast was also discussed as an alternative to community communion.

What will Wesley Look like when we emerge from the Corona Virus ?

Short Term - We will need to find a way to incorporate our online connectivity into our ministry tools going forward. We will possibly have to purchase Smart TV's so we can expand our capabilities of live streaming and Zooming meetings and classes.

Long Term – The effects of the Virus will probably linger into the fall and longer, until there is a vaccine.

6 Planning Areas to keep before us

#1 Reinvigorating the Chapel – finished – the question was raised, since we cannot find any living Colwell relatives, maybe we could research and find people who were related to the leadership of the church at the time and they could be invited to the rededication.

#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

Closing

Wally closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting: Monday April 27, 2020 by zoom at 2:00 pm.