

Platte Woods United Methodist Church
Meeting Minutes of the Leadership Council (LC)
September 9, 2019

Present:

LC: Jamie Grayson, Marc Evans, Al Minnis, Warren Dudley, Michael Hundt, Kirby McDaniel, Erin Cox and Christie Dade

Staff: Steve Breon, Lori Bogart and Britton Fields

The PWUMC LC was called to order at 6:30 PM on September 9, 2019 by Jamie Grayson, Chairperson.

Minutes: Mr. Evans moved, and Mr. Minnis seconded and the minutes of the August 12, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved.

New Business:

Charge Conference Business

Dr. Breon first asked that LC review the Pastoral Support forms at the end of the meeting so he and Mr. Fields could leave prior to them being discussed. LC agreed to this.

Dr. Breon reminded everyone that Charge Conference will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at Platte City UMC at 6:00 PM. He stated that this is attended by Staff, LC and Nominating Committee (NC) members and asked that everyone check their schedules and at the October 14, 2019 LC meeting let him know who will be attending this Charge Conference.

The Nominating Committee (NC) currently consists of four (4) members (Chuck Coughlin, Missy Nelson, Julie Moise and Aaron Schmidt). They will be meeting to propose three (3) members for LC class of 2022 and two (2) additional members for the NC class of 2022 to bring it to a full committee of six (6) members.

Dr. Breon also discussed making a formal proposal at Charge Conference to change LC and NC terms from coinciding with our fiscal year (July – June) to a calendar year term (Jan – Dec). To be included in this proposal will be a statement that LC members may serve a maximum of two (2) , three (3) year terms and that these terms may run consecutively.

The current terms for LC member classes would be adjusted as follows:

Member class 2020 would serve till May 2020 (Mr. Evans, Ms. McDaniel, Mr. Minnis)

Member class 2021 would serve till December 2020 (Ms. Cox, Ms. Dade, Mr. Dudley)

Member class 2022 would serve till December 2021 (Mr. Hundt, Mr. Grayson, Ms. Schemenauer)

Annual Conference

Dr. Breon stated that Annual Conference will be held in Springfield, MO from June 5, 2020-June 7, 2020. He asked for one person from LC to attend and Ms. McDaniel stated she would be able to do so.

Metric Scoreboard

Ms. Bogart shared the most current measures and data for 2019 (Jan. - Aug.) for 8 tracked areas.

Specifically, for August:

- Worship avg. weekly attendance: 858 (46 online)
- Children Sunday AM avg weekly attendance: 90
- Student Sunday avg weekly attendance: 19
- Guest Retention rate dropped from July to Aug. 2%
- Giving Units: 243
- % Serving internal/external avg. Weekly: 62
- Professions of faith (baptisms-child/Adult): 2/0

Mr. Fields gave an update on the Youth kickoff event. Original band and speaker were unable to attend but a band was put together with church members and Mr. Grayson spoke to the students. There were 82 students in attendance and Mr. Fields stated it was one of the best events they have ever held. He stated this is a great starting point and that there is strong group of leaders in place to work with the students.

Canoeing in the Mountains

Dr. Breon encouraged everyone to read this book he passed out at the last LC meeting. He said it doesn't necessarily offer answers on how to make adaptive changes (learning process) versus technical changes (specific answers) but it would help everyone to shift their way of thinking as we deal with uncharted territory for the church today.

Mr. Minnis added that he felt it mainly applied to the Pastors' role and the importance of Pastors leading forward but that it also applied to the role of the LC .

Mr. Dudley stated the book looked at how the United States is evolving into a pagan society and that the book addresses how we (the leadership of the church) need to be ready to adapt to this different societal viewpoint, where the church does not hold a prominent role. He also said the book emphasized how it was crucial, that as churches adapt to this new normal, that all the staff must be on board with the proposed changes for them to be successful.

Other Business:

Way Forward Discussion/Evening of Conversation

Mr. Fields gave an update on the proposed format and date for this event to occur. Original date proposed was October 10, 2019 but members of LC stated there were several Middle School events scheduled for that date in the Parkhill District. The date was changed to October 21, 2019.

Mr. Fields said he has spoken with staff from Good Shepherd UMC in St. Louis, MO who had held a similar event for their congregants. He also indicated that there are materials available from Annual Conference that could help with this event. Dr. Breon is going to speak with Kim Jenne at the Conference Office on Tuesday to get some input also.

Mr. Fields asked if LC members could attend this event and serve as table hosts to help facilitate conversations among attendees after the presentation is complete. A set of prompts will be provided for table discussions. The table prompts will be shared with LC members at the October 14, 2019 LC meeting and guidelines for facilitating table discussions will be reviewed. The following LC members indicated they would be able to attend: Mr. Grayson, Mr. Evans, Mr. Minnis, Mr. Dudley, Mr. Hundt, Ms. McDaniel, Ms. Cox and Ms. Dade.

Strategic Planning

Ms. Bogart updated LC on the upcoming Worship time and style changes that will go into effect this Sunday, September 15, 2019. Ms. Bogart passed around a sample of the new bulletin format the Jennifer has developed.

Front page will be on Sermon Series/ Page 2 will have upcoming events that we want to focus on having people to attend/ page 3 have impact focus area across top, Worship times listed in middle, 2 columns on bottom : one for Gather/ Grow/Give/ Go items and other for Prayer.

Discussion ensued about having link to calendar on main website as LC feels to reach our target audience, we must have a freely accessible calendar for them to reference. Ms. Bogart said she would investigate how current calendar could be better utilized.

Faith in Action Sunday

Dr. Breon stated that there were 100 people who participated on Saturday and that on Sunday we reached our goal of meals packed and that staff viewed the day as a success.

Pastoral Support Forms

Dr. Breon and Mr. Fields left the meeting and Ms. Bogart explained the proposed compensation for Dr. Breon, Ms Richards and MR. Fields. Mr. Fields' compensation will be finalized after speaking to the Conference Office regarding his participation in the Fellowship Program. Ms. Bogart informed LC that Dr. Breon suggested a 2% increase for the other three (3) pastors and LC agreed to this amount. The forms for Dr. Breon and Ms. Richards were signed after review by LC. Dr. Liston's forms were not discussed as she has been out on medical leave and has not completed her portion of the required forms. These forms will be forwarded to LC once they are completed for review and approval.

Ms. McDainel moved, Mr. Evans seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2019 at 6:30 pm.

Minutes submitted by Christie Dade, Vice Chairperson