

Platte Woods United Methodist Church
Meeting Minutes of the Leadership Council (LC)
March 9, 2020

Present

LC: Christie Dade, Michael Hundt, Warren Dudley, Jamie Grayson, Al Minnis, Amy Schemenauer, Natalie Toalson, Lauren Hogel, Brad Darnell, Marc Evans and Kirby McDaniel

Staff: Steve Breon, Britton Fields and Lori Bogart

The PWUMC LC was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on March 9, 2020 by Jamie Grayson, Chairperson.

Minutes: Warren moved, and Al seconded to approve the February 10, 2020 minutes and the minutes were unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

LC Members got their pictures taken for the website before the meeting got started.

Ministry Update – Sunbeams & Parents Day Out Update

Sue Arensberg, the director, joined the meeting and shared information about the two programs.

Sunbeams

This preschool program helps children experience all areas of development to prepare for their elementary school experience. The children learn about cooperation, manners, sharing, listening and following instructions in a nurturing Christian environment. There are 11 on staff that teach the children through a variety of fun activities, including fitness time, music, special “theme” days, exposure to letters, numbers and colors and project time. The teacher-to-student ratio is 1 to 10.

Parents Day Out

The PDO program is in its 51st year of providing childcare to children ages 6 weeks to pre-K. During the mornings, teachers share in crafts, reading and other fun learning exercises with students. Afternoons are spent in free play, allowing children to have fun and develop their social skills. PDO offers flexibility and children can attend when it fits into their schedule. There are about 45 staff who manage the program and on average about 100 children who participate on a weekly basis.

Strategic Planning updates

Unstuck

Lori reported that Unstuck, the consulting group, completed its final engagement with the staff retreat held on Feb. 19 at the Heartland Center. The focus was on culture and how groups and individuals impact culture. Steve and Britton were pleased with the engagement and felt it will serve as a good resource for staff.

Changeover Zone Planning

Several in the group felt Jim Ozier's onsite meetings with leadership, hospitality team and the congregation were well received. He did a great job connecting with the groups and validated we were doing many things right with our current programming and activities.

One of Jim's suggestions was to create a transition team to handle the many details that come with a pastoral change and new appointments. Lauren, Natalie and Jamie agreed serve on the team along with staff members Mat, Jennifer and Lori. There will be other congregational support that Lori will appoint to help so we have the ability to handle all of the tasks that lie ahead. It was suggested that we recruit someone from our youth to help out as well.

Appointments

Christie announced the following new appointments. She also confirmed an email (coordinated and sent out by all three churches) would be sent to the congregations the next day to share this information at the same time.

Pastor Jessica Richard will become the new senior pastor at McMurry UMC. During her 8 years at PWUMC, Jessica served as the director of Children's Ministry and, more recently, as director of Intentional Faith Development (adult groups and learning).

Pastor Choongho will join PWUMC as an associate pastor. He completed his doctorate of ministry from Candler School of Theology in 2017 and will be moving from Avondale UMC, where he has served as pastor the last five years. He has been in ministry more than 20 years and has extensive experience in the areas of Intentional Faith Development and Congregational Care.

Lori will be coordinating and sharing more information about Jessica's reception.

Amy mentioned that it would be great to get to know the staff a bit better. A simple mixer or opportunity to get the two groups together to foster these relationships would be beneficial.

Important Dates

Pastor Nancy Liston's retirement reception will be held March 22 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

General Conference is May 5-15, 2020

Annual conference is June 5-7, 2020

Michael moved to close the meeting at 7:35 p.m. The next meeting is April 13, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Amy Schemenauer, Secretary