

Pastoral Team Minutes from 2/9/15

Present: Lorie H., pastor, Brenda Rich, Mark Michalovic and Laurie Callan, Ken Beidler, elders

Opened with prayer

Discussion about Lorie H. serving as Franconia conference delegate for this summer's Mennonite convention. Lorie has been invited to be a delegate because of who she is and who our congregation is, how we worked through our sexual orientation discernment process. If Lorie accepts, then WPMF can send someone else as a congregational delegate. We affirmed Lorie's participation along with feeling it would be good for her to have support to process with, after delegate meetings.

The Supportive Communities Network requests that we contribute \$200 yr to support them and be listed as part of their network. We approved this. Lorie will be the contact person for SCN.

Sharing from Pastoral Team Retreat held January 17th at Brenda's home.

We continued discussion about parts of our visioning prayer.

Work for the Shalom of the City: We felt we are doing this in various ways through Kingdom Builders, Heeding God's Call, POWER. The Outreach Grp has talked some about outreach to SouthWest Philly, dreaming about creating gardens in empty lots, in schools. Someone mentioned a grp called F.A.S.T. (Families and Schools Together.) Talked about having Brenda speak with the outreach grp to discuss resources she knows of (from her work) in this area.

We continued discussion about Faith Formation, specifically with our youth. We talked about using John Stoltzfus, Franconia Conf. Youth Minister, as a resource person. Maybe have him preach, talk in adult S.S.

We discussed the need to support families/parents in how to encourage/nurture faith. How do we engage children/youth in church life? We decided to ask John to meet with the Pastoral team first.

It was mentioned that Eleanor Kreider is a resource on Communion.

On 2/16, the pastoral team will meet with Kelly from The Attic from @6:30-7:15 We want to ask them what kinds of things they talk with churches about.

Discussed upcoming Church Council mtg on Feb. 12th. We will discuss the upcoming World Café, report on the Pastoral Team Retreat and Youth related ideas we have been talking about faith formation, mentoring program, church membership/baptism. Also want to mention Lorie's sabbatical planning and Living into Our welcome updates.

Brenda mentioned that she could meet with church or those involved in child abuse clearances at WPMF, to update us on changes made in the child abuse clearance system/laws. She is aware of these things through her work.

Submitted late by Laurie Callan (3/27/15)