

Pastoral Team Minutes  
May 11, 2015

Present: Lorie Hershey, Ken Beidler, Laurie Callan, Brenda Rich

- Brenda led in an opening prayer.
- We looked over the new church website to see if anything was missing, information that needed updated or possible additions. These were some suggestions we came up with:
  - One of the rotating pictures includes an image of the front of our building which shows Calvary's worship time but not ours.
  - In section "Who We Are" last paragraph we suggested adding "gender identity" to list.
  - Wondered if the area on website marked "Discernment Overview" was clear enough to website goers. Those of us in the congregation know that this refers to our conversation and decision on becoming more inclusive of LGBTQ but not sure others would know that.
  - The list of items under "Resources" are all password protected. Do we need a way to indicate that this is accessible to only regular attenders/members. Ideas were to change title of section to something besides "Resources" maybe "Congregational Resources" or indicate in some way that material in this section is password protected.
  - Child protection section needs to be updated with recent changes to the laws.
  - Include the Vision Prayer somewhere on the website. One idea was to put it under "Who We are" at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph following the sentence that reads "Jesus Christ binds us together."
  - We need more photos and also more updated photos.
- We continued our discussion about our communion practice as a congregation. We discussed our own responses to the different ways that we have practice communion recently (at Easter and at retreat) both of which included serving children and youth the bread. We had not heard feedback except to observe the interest of children and youth at being included.
  - We will celebrate communion again on Pentecost Sunday instead of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of May.
  - We would continue to discern God's Spirit and listen to different voices within the congregation-especially feedback from parents of youth and children.
- Updates:
  - There was an outreach group meeting on Sunday May 10 that include outreach groups and also Sarah Rody (representing youth). Group talked about including youth in a service project in the neighborhood. Sheri M. made contact with a volunteer coordinator at Comegys elementary school.
  - Child Protection Policy: Laurie Callan will work on updating CPP. Lorie Hershey and Dorianna are going to a training seminar on child protection issues sponsored by Franconia Conference.

- We will offer a time in June after worship and after Sunday school program is over when new people can finish or begin their clearance process.
- Parents and Children. Ken wondered if given the number of young children we have using the nursery whether we might need to increase number of volunteers. A suggestion was made that we add an additional youth volunteer for each Sunday. This youth might be called as needed depending on the number of children.
- Small Groups:
  - Brenda reported that there are two dates set for the new attenders small group in May and June. This group is getting together to decide how they will continue to connect with one another. At one of those meetings Nancy G. is coming to share about current small groups.
  - There is interest in connecting two current small groups who are both meeting around contemplative prayer.
  - Sheri Magness is interested in following up on the retreat idea of sharing life stories. Possibly as a separate small group or as an adult Sunday school series
  - Cisco, a new attender, who teaches theology at Villanova U., is interested in gathering a group together to discuss theology. This could be offered over the summer for those who are interested.
- We talked about whether our current "Covenant of Membership" needs to be updated. The current covenant was formed in 1985, revised in 1997 and 2005. We haven't revised it for 10 years. A number of thoughts were shared:
  - There is some language that doesn't feel like it fits anymore especially section that refers to "discipline"
  - It would be good to share the covenant with people either through listserv or bulletin insert a few weeks before we sign the covenant.
  - Revision might be needed but maybe a small group that might include an elder could come up with a new draft. The question was asked whether revisions would require congregational approval.
- Other Agenda items:
  - Human Resources Committee is still looking for elders.
  - Lorie and Brenda are going to attend the next Council meeting.
- We shared pastoral care concerns and prayed.

**Next Meeting: Monday, June 1** Meeting to celebrate the end of Brenda and Ken's elder terms. This might also include new elders.