

Minutes
Pastoral Team
Dec.19, 2016
Time Keeper: Nick
Minutes: Amanda

7:30 Centering & Prayer

7:35 Vision and priorities for 2017-18

Reflect on:

Where is there energy in the congregation? What can we capitalize on?

-reach out to the community

-social justice issues- stepping up with new political climate

-going deeper- how to feel more connected with the spirit or keep the energy from visioning experiences

-not feeling much energy

Where do you sense God leading the congregation?

-be generous with our welcome and inclusion

-listening to others- people of color, LGBTQ, immigrants

-someone has energy- others join in

-making our congregation more inviting to people of all races

-visioning for coming year- Lorie gave a list of ideas that are brewing

-visioning day for Elders?

8:15 Discuss ideas for church retreat theme & speaker

(please review email conversation before the meeting)

-One preference not to have returning citizens be the topic

-One idea that using grant money for a speaker this year makes sense because we have the money

-balance between retreating and having a break, and also diving into deeper learning

-Idea of Mickey ScottBey brought to team. She works with Evangelicals for Social Action : <http://www.evangelicalsforsocialaction.org/about/who-we-are/esa-associate-fellows-for-racial-justice/>and leads trainings for Christian activists through TRANSFORM network: <http://transformnetwork.org/>

She bridges the "gap" between social action and faith/spirituality

-Interest in moving forward with this

-Lorie will get more details

8:30 Decide co-sponsorship for petition to SRC re: sanctuary school

(please review email conversation before the meeting)

-reviewed petition brought us by a member and emails between elders

- New Sanctuary movement involved- Germantown Mennonite
- Yes to move forward, with some reservations from one member
- Laurie** will let Donna know that we will be a co-sponsor of this
- plan to announce by 1/8

8:40 Discuss children and youth Sunday school

1. Feedback from survey Amanda sent to parents of senior high youth
 - a. 3 parents responded- want more structure, discuss faith, MVS
- Lorie and Amanda** plan to meet with Sunday school coordinators in Jan
2. Discuss purpose of Sunday school
 - a. What things are important in that 45 minutes?
 - i. Selective service, how to deal with violence, making choices
 - ii. Space to share more deeply, and support
 - iii. Getting to know classmates and teachers
 - b. What do we hope the children/youth gain?
 - . Knowledge of the bible
 - c. In one sentence, state what you see as the purpose of Sunday school.
 - . How does your faith inform _____
 - i. Wrestle with what it means to follow Jesus today
3. Are there guidelines that we want to put in place?
 - Topics for Senior Sunday School information
 - Lorie** will send around information and team will add input
 - Elders will have guidelines for Sr. and Jr. Youth Sunday School

9:00 Pastoral care and prayer

9:15 Administrative items

9:25 Meeting evaluation:

- What went well?
- reviewed emails before meeting
- When did we have focused energy?
- What could we do better?
- be on time

Next meeting: Jan 11, 2017 7:30, at Laurie's?

Future agenda:

Feedback from worship committee regarding idea of sections of the Bible as worship focus (Worship Committee meets again in March)