

Pastoral Team Meeting Minutes – Jan. 6, 2016

Those Present: Nick, Lorie, Brenda

Those Absent: Laurie, Mark

7:30PM – Began

- Finalized proposal to change the process of affirming lay leaders to bring to Church Council. Lorie will make a few small changes before February meeting. Proposal approved.
- Discussed proposal from Redemption Housing for WPMF's involvement. (see below) Approved proposal to bring to Church Council with recommendations to Nick for small changes.
 - Mark contributed by email in his absence.
 - Talked about feedback from SS sessions on Redemption Housing.
 - Discussed possibility of collaboration with Ron Muse, Healing Communities, Sermon speakers, Philadelphia FIGHT to keep the issue of Prison/Reentry in the forefront.
- Report from Lorie re: a meeting with Mennonite leaders in Souderton
- Final discussion before sending response letter to Franconia Conference re: Together Statements.
 - Letter will be emailed and sent as a physical copy.
 - Emailed letter will be CC'd to conference churches.
- Report on progress for Exploring Baptism class for Jr. High
- Pastoral Care and Prayer
 - Approved \$65 expenditure from elder's budget for pastoral care.

9:40PM – Close

Next Meeting will be on Weds. Feb 3, 2016

Redemption Housing Proposal

Redemption Housing is seeking to partner with West Philadelphia Mennonite Fellowship for financial, relational, and administrative support. For many years WPMF has reached out to its community through various friendships and projects which closely align with the church's goal to work for the Shalom of the city. A partnership between Redemption Housing and WPMF will help the congregation to more fully live into its desire to be welcoming, loving, and peacemaking.

At this time Redemption Housing asks that WPMF provide financial support in the following ways:

1. Add Redemption Housing to the 2017 mission budget.
2. Approve a Shalom Fund grant for a total of \$21,000. This grant will include two components: \$6,000 for startup costs, consisting mainly of incorporation and administrative expenses, and a \$15,000 matching grant.
 - a. Startup Costs (\$6,000) . In 2016 Redemption Housing will be incorporating in the State of Pennsylvania and filing for nonprofit status with the IRS. These funds will provide for legal and filing expenses as well as initial fundraising materials.
 - b. Matching Grant (\$15,000) - The Shalom Fund application asks that requested funds be leveraged, providing matching funds or in some way multiplying the gift. This \$15,000 portion of the grant represents one year's rent for Redemption Housing (\$1,250 per month). It would be used to kick start Redemption Housing's fundraising process by providing incentive for the organization's first donors to multiply their gifts.
3. Choose to become Redemption Housing's fiscal sponsor during its startup period. (More information to be added)

At this time Redemption Housing asks that WPMF provide relational support in the following ways:

1. Foster connections within the broader Mennonite community for the purpose further developing Redemption Housing.
2. Commit to become a one of Redemption Housing's Partnering Congregations, churches where residents will be encouraged to attend and become involved.
3. Mobilize a committee to act as the bridge between Redemption Housing and the congregation. This committee will be responsible for keeping the congregation informed and organizing volunteer opportunities.

At this time Redemption Housing asks that WPMF provide administrative support in the following ways:

1. Commit to allow Redemption Housing to use WPMF's office space and desktop computer for the duration of 2016.
 - a. Space would be used for monthly board meetings, weekly meetings with potential partners and donors, storage of documents, and layout space for development planning.
2. Become an official Partnering Congregation, further giving Redemption housing credibility in both the broader Mennonite and West Philadelphia communities. This could include would not be limited to an official partnership announcement on WPMF's website and in an email to its congregation, listing on Redemption Housing's website, and an announcement to Franconia Conference.