

Pastoral Team Meeting
September 25, 2018

Minutes: Ethan Tan

Present: Lorie Hershey, Amanda Bouwman, Ethan Tan, Mark Michlovic, Sheldon Rich

Tasks

- Lorie will check in with the building manager about whether the sexton is taking care of these cleaning duties
- Ethan will share Google Form with Lorie and Dorianna
- Lorie will check in with other retreat organizers — Carol Martin Johnson, Anne Yoder, and Ken Beidler — about feedback before sending retreat survey out
- Ethan will share nutshell description of mini retreat via email
- The committee will gather feedback and thoughts on the mini retreat and email responses as they come in
- Lorie will contact Circle Counseling about support group

1. Community life and children/youth meeting follow up

Community Life update: Ethan reported that everything is going well. There is now a new coffee point person — Katie Tan — to sit on the Community Life committee and communicate with other coffee volunteers. The committee decided to use name tags every fellowship meal Sunday to help newcomers mingle. In addition, it was agreed that the committee should look into once again giving newcomers welcome packets.

Children/youth meeting update: Amanda reported that there are a lot of building issues for nursery and Sunday school. There's mold and usually a mess when rooms are needed. Volunteers are having to clean the rooms. Lorie will check in with the building manager about whether the sexton is taking care of these cleaning duties.

2. Retreat survey

Sheldon shared a draft survey that Ethan converted into a Google Form. There was discussion about ease of input and interpretation, which led to the Likert scale being reduced from 1-10 to 1-5. There are multiple opportunities in the survey for comments because a lot of meaningful feedback, it was said, is captured outside scales. There is a need to have feedback more centralized rather than have it live with separate coordinators, which is reason to use the Google Form. However, given how many members aren't totally comfortable with Google, the committee agreed to use the Google Form as well as paper surveys during and after retreats. A

question about location accessibility was added to the survey because transportation could be an issue for some individuals. Lorie will check in with other retreat organizers — Carol Martin Johnson, Anne Yoder, and Ken Beidler — about feedback before sending it out. Ethan will share Google Form with Lorie and Dorianna.

3. Brainstorm about 2019 mini retreat/workshop for portion of congregation

The purpose of such a retreat would be to address the needs of members of the church whose needs haven't necessarily been met in this manner. Previous mini retreats have centered on marriage and parenting. After some discussion about what issues or individuals may not have had an opportunity to participate in recent mini retreats, and what common threads run through all demographics, the committee agreed that in 2019 it should be singlehood. The committee recognized it is important to provide space that moves beyond the traditional family structure and focus on other needs, other individuals, who may not share that experience. The first task is to gauge interest and what levels of participation are possible. The committee will gather feedback and thoughts and email responses as they come in.

4. Feedback on 9/12/18 Council meeting

Sheldon and Ethan shared feeling frustrated with the lack of consensus and direction. Amanda affirmed the structure and format of the meeting, whilst also saying there were too many unknowns. Mark, who was not present at the Council meeting, added that change is scary, and it's also exciting: moving could be a good thing for the church. Lorie expressed her sense of conflict, that she doesn't feel we should move at this moment. There was discussion about the importance of place in shaping WPMF, of how much we still don't know about what we'd be giving up and what we'd be gaining should we move, and how Council hasn't framed what's at stake very well for the congregation. It's not at all clear if recent proposed Calvary management reforms will effect meaningful change. This is something we expect to see better by the end of the year.

5. Pastoral care

Lorie proposed the idea of meeting some needs of the congregation by creating a support group, and volunteered to check in with counselors from Circle Counseling to see if they would be available to run such a group. Committee agreed. Lorie will reach out to Circle Counseling. Committee discussed individuals that need support and prayer.

6. Next meeting

WPMF church office. October 16, 2018.

7. Future agenda

Congregational sexual ethics conversation.