

Commission Chairs Team

June 1, 2021

6:00 PM

Present: Jeanne Smucker, Martha Yoder Maust, Grace Rhine, Herb Troyer, Joyce Troyer, Brad Yoder, Mike Wigginton, Brian Bither, Cheryl Martin

1. Opening prayer – Brian Bither
2. Personal updates by the members
3. Safely Gathering Committee – Martha Yoder Maust
 - a. There are a spectrum of feelings in the congregation about opening the church.
 - b. The Discipling Commission is unsure when Sunday school classes will start in the fall as there is no way to have them as a hybrid.
 - c. There are about 45 people known to be fully vaccinated at this time.
 - d. A hybrid service is being planned for the present.
 - e. Jim Showalter has worked out most of the details and will be heading the efforts.
4. Preliminary work distribution for Brian Bither and Craig Oury – Jeanne Smucker
 - a. Guidelines have been set up for the first 3 months.
 - b. Plans are in place for an evaluation at the end of the 3 months.
 - c. Plans include:
 - c.i. Brian will preach 2 times and Craig will preach once each month.
 - c.ii. Craig will meet with the Administrative Commission, the Community Life Commission, and the Deacons.
 - c.iii. Craig will be encouraged to meet with families to get better acquainted.
 - c.iv. Both Brian and Craig will attend the Vision and Accountability Team meetings for the first 3 months.
 - c.v. It has not been determined which pastor will meet with the other commissions at this time.
 - c.vi. Will plan to use a co-pastor model at this time.
 - c.vii. An installation service will be planned after Craig arrives.
 - c.vii.1. Will ask for his input.
 - c.vii.2. Sharon Yoder from the Indiana-Michigan conference will represent the conference.
5. Discipling Commission – Martha Yoder Maust
 - a. Waiting to determine when Sunday school will resume.
 - b. Are not planning to order Sunday school materials for the children for the summer.
 - c. Laura Harms will be planning for children's activities during part of the church service.
6. Worship Commission – Grace Rhine
 - a. The commission has been meeting frequently to plan for the hybrid services.
 - b. Will be sending out revised descriptions for roles of persons helping with the services.

- c. The commission thanks Brian Bither for the sermon series and “Facing Hard Questions” sessions.
 - d. All preaching has been scheduled through July.
 - e. The commission thanks Rod Maust for all the years he has planned for music for the services as he has asked to be relieved of this responsibility.
 - f. It has been decided not to have ensemble for the present time.
 - g. The set of CD’s is being purchased to go with the new hymnal and will be used during the services.
 - h. There will not be singing during the service.
 - i. With the hybrid set up, persons will be able to participate on Zoom from home.
7. Community Life Commission – Herb Troyer
- a. They will be meeting soon to begin planning.
 - b. They are discussing naming the playground.
 - c. Will be putting up signs to make sure people know the playground is for the community along with the new name.
 - d. Any ideas about the playground should be given to the Community Life Commission.
8. Outreach Commission – Brad Yoder
- a. Met in May and will meet next on June 15.
 - b. Zenebe Abebe is representing Shalom on the Arlington Area Neighborhood group to help plan a community service day.
 - c. We continue to collect caps for a small child-sized picnic table.
 - d. Family Promise.
 - d.i. First Mennonite has decided to stop participating.
 - d.ii. Are working on how to continue Shalom’s participation.
 - e. Brad discussed issues with gun violence and the groups working on that.
 - e.i. St Luke’s Intracongregational Group.
 - e.ii. Have met with city officials.
 - e.iii. June 15 there will be a forum including gun safety in the home.
 - f. Indiana AID
 - f.i. Not much activity currently.
 - f.ii. There are periodic check-ins with members.
 - g. Continue to assist Morning Star Congregation in Muncie.
 - h. Anti-racism Audit
 - h.i. Need to form a committee to plan for the congregational audit.
 - h.ii. Several names were presented.
 - h.iii. May need a budget to hire an outside consultant if an appropriate person is not found in the congregation.
 - h.iv. May ask Craig to help with the audit.
 - h.v. Will likely need policy updates.
 - h.vi. It was decided the Outreach Commission will lead the efforts.
9. Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team – Joyce Troyer
- a. Met to look at the needs for the coming year.
 - b. A few changes to the commissions will occur and are being planned for.

10. Vision and Accountability Team – Jeanne Smucker
 - a. Planned for distribution of work between Brian and Craig.
 - b. Discussed the anti-racism audit.
 - c. Are planning to review the Vision Statement to include anti-racism material after the audit is complete.
11. Administration Commission – Mike Wigginton
 - a. They are contacting Carla about cleaning the church again.
 - b. A few changes have been made to the website – give any additional ideas to Mike.
 - c. Becky is working on the Earth Day Celebration on Saturday June 5 with the East Side Creation Network.
 - d. A memorial tree planting for Tim Bixler is planned tentatively for August 21, 2021.
12. Next meeting – July 12 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Martin