

Commission Chairs Team
March 2, 2021
6:00 PM

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

1. Prayer – Jeanne Smucker
2. Question about meeting in person – Martha for the Safely Gathering Committee
 - a. Martha found a decision tree to help make decisions about meeting.
 - b. Martha reviewed several studies for clarification.
 - c. The community may be able to be vaccinated by sometime in May.
 - d. Do we distinguish between vaccinated and unvaccinated persons for admission?
 - i. Vaccinated meet with vaccinated persons.
 - ii. How do we admit others?
 - e. Do we wait to begin in person meeting until everyone can come or start with those who can come and wish to do so?
 - f. Hybrid worship services can be available now if we wish to start now – equipment is in place.
 - g. However, consensus was that even hybrid should not be done until people can choose whether to come or to Zoom.
 - h. Outside worship is too complex for us to use effectively; that includes an Easter service.
 - i. There seemed to be consensus to wait to meet until everyone is able to do so.
 - j. Ideas were given by various persons related to concerns and commissions.
 - k. Is it possible to start with small groups and “stair step” to larger groups?
 - l. Plans to prepare for reopening the building.
 - i. Everything needs to be operational (water, etc.)
 - ii. Discussion was held regarding things to think about in preparation.
 - iii. Will need to clean the building according to CDC guidelines
 - iv. May plan to hire a company with this expertise.
 - v. Need to establish a timeline determining how much time is needed to prepare – maybe 4 weeks?
 - m. Will need to communicate with Iglasia.
 - n. Will continue to look for ways to stay safe.
 - o. Martha will put a message in the newsletter to let the congregation know where the discussion stands.
3. Spiritual Gifts Discernment Team – Joyce Troyer
 - a. Have been relatively inactive.
 - b. Will begin to look at who needs to be replaced.
 - c. Will ask persons in commissions who wishes to remain and who may want to be replaced.
 - d. Knowing who is on the active member list is difficult.

- i. Some discussion was had about this, but no decisions was made.
 - ii. Will ask the deacons to identify persons who consider themselves active members.
4. Community Life – Herb Troyer
 - a. Have met once since last CCT meeting.
 - b. Have had discussion if people want more Zoom gatherings such as a Wednesday evening meeting.
 - c. Are maintaining contacts.
5. Outreach – Brad Yoder
 - a. A Zoom lunch was held with Peter and Delicia.
 - b. Zenebe Abebe continues to meet with the Arlington Woods neighborhood group via Zoom.
 - c. Hoosiers Against Gun Violence is actively opposing a bill to abolish gun licenses which is in the state congress and has passed the House and is in the Senate.
 - d. Center for Interfaith Hospitality will be recognizing Ascension St. Vincent.
 - e. East Side Creation Network continues to meet.
 - f. Immigration issues – continue to work with immigrants. Helped transport a couple to Chicago for hearings on residence status.
 - g. Redistricting is an issue in congress.
 - h. Indiana AID continues to be active.
6. Pastor – Brian Bither
 - a. A delegate meeting for Indiana-Michigan Conference will be this Saturday.
 - i. Jeanne Smucker is attending.
 - ii. Issue of importance is the Conference Minister since Dan Miller is retiring.
 - b. Has made a first pastoral visit since the beginning of the pandemic.
7. Administration – Mike Wigginton
 - a. Continue to deal with issues as they arise.
 - b. The lift has been fixed and passed inspection.
 - c. Mike watches the camera at the church but has not seen any major issues.
 - d. Continue to work at removing the honeysuckle.
 - e. The solar panels continue to provide electricity. Should not need to pay anything but maintenance fees for some time.
 - f. Mike will do the newsletter until someone else volunteers.
8. Discipling – Martha Yoder Maust
 - a. The Bible Unwrapped class is going well
 - b. Working with “Widerstand Consulting” on racism issue.
 - i. This includes videos.
 - ii. Frank Kandel and Wilma Bailey will lead the class.
 - iii. Will begin in Easter with Tobin Miller Shearer.
9. Worship – Grace Rhine
 - a. Met on 2/22 and thanked Linda Showalter for taking care of the new hymnals.
 - b. Reviewed some services and seem to have a positive review.
 - c. Have scheduled plans through Good Friday and Easter.

- d. Still discussing the communion service in April.
 - e. Will extend an invitation to a brief virtual gathering for anyone who may want to learn more about how to get involved in different parts of the worship service. A detailed announcement will be placed in JT and announced verbally during a worship service.
 - f. Sam Bixler will run the tech while Jim Showalter is gone.
 - g. Emily Ludden will decorate the front of the sanctuary for Easter.
10. Vision and Accountability Team – Jeanne Smucker
- a. Discussed the vision statement.
 - i. Has many percentages and dates that have been missed.
 - ii. Probably needs revision.
 - b. Discussed Brian’s workload – he feels it is manageable at this time.
11. Vision Statement – Jeanne Smucker
- a. Goal #1 – has been met.
 - b. Goal #2.
 - i. 1c – we could still do this.
 - ii. 2 – is about 70% complete – some refuse to do it.
 - iii. 3 – has been altered somewhat by the pandemic. Herb will look at how many are in small groups.
 - c. Goal #3 – none have been commissioned but many are active.
 - d. Have at least partially met all goals.
 - e. May be ready to make a new vision for the next 4 years.
 - f. The database has been used and is useful.
 - g. It is ready for the VAT to move forward with plans for revision and new goal setting with congregation.
 - h. Continue to want to be a dynamic congregation.
 - i. Should more about diversity be added?
 - j. Keep the mission statement in the forefront.
12. Next meeting – April 6 at 6 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Martin