

## CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MEETING – 8/12/2014

### Opening

Mary McClure called the meeting to order. Elvin Knight provided the board with a moment of reflection.

### Approval of the Minutes

Gloria Findley-Grogger approved the proposed minutes from the last Congregational Board meeting; the motion was seconded and approved.

### Construction Report

John provided a report on the ongoing exterior construction, which will be finished by week's end. Phase two, which will target sidewalks, landscaping and other aesthetics, will follow. Nancy Lear asked how much the church has borrowed to date; John Clemmer reported that the church has not had need to borrow at this time. Nancy Lear also inquired about the coloring of the finials atop the main tower of the church; John Clemmer replied that he will talk to the construction company about the coloration.

### Branding Committee Report

Jared Rose noted that the branding committee will present items to the Elders/Deacons retreat later in the month. The brainstorming process is still ongoing for how the church could use slogans, names, etc., to better present an intended image of the church to current, new and future members as well as the neighborhood. The last two Sundays of August will be used to field people's questions in the Parlor and will be answered by members of the Branding Committee. He also noted that the next meeting of the Branding Committee will be on August 18. Dick Horn requested more information into why the process is being considered. Jared Rose recapped the history of the issue to the board. Dick Horn noted that many other organizations use the name "Country Club," noted via phone book, and have no such issues. Both Mary McClure and Glen Miles added that future market research will be used to help us see how the church is viewed. Tim Webster reminded the board that this is a long standing and polarizing issue.

### Fiscal Report

Phil Howes reported on a net loss of \$32k. He also reported that the pledge numbers are slightly below for the year and contributions are higher for July than the previous year. He added that several figures are still being analyzed by Rachel Clement and John Clemmer and all outcomes will be noted in future reporting. Dick Horn asked where the Columbarium fund fit in the financial report; Phil Howes and Nancy Lear replied that it is a separate account and was not present in this report. Phil Love requested that future fiscal documents be presented with net numbers for easier analysis for the Board.

## Dashboard

Mary McClure introduced the Dashboard reporting document to the board. Mary McClure explained that the report is designed to tell you what is working and what is trending in the church. Weekly worship attendance, member growth, financial capital, and fiscal stability are all tracked in this document. Mary McClure reviewed the data for the month. Phil Love inquired how does the church handle first time visitors? Glen elaborated that the process is currently being reconstructed with Meredith Holladay.

## Board Action

John Clemmer presented an action to the board regarding the housing allowance for Meredith Holladay. Nancy Lear moved to approve the action; the motion was seconded and the board unanimously passed the action.

## Senior Minister Report

Glen Miles noted that Sharon Watkins' (Denominational President) mother passed away after a long battle with cancer. He also noted that Festival Sunday is this Sunday; all board members were encouraged to invite a friend to participate in the festivities and service! Glen Miles reminded the board that October 5 will be the Sunday for the rededication of the church. He then presented his outline for future sermon series, via handout distributed to the board, and reviewed his preaching plans for the rest of the calendar year.

## Brainstorming Activity

Mary McClure divided the board into four groups, each provided with post-it notes and flip charts. Questions were posed to the groups as follows: "In what new and different ways will we transform lives in the next one to three years?" and "What are the unanswered questions we mean to reflect upon in the coming year?" After time in discussion, each group presented their answers to the rest of the board in an effort to find similar results.

## Closing

Mary McClure adjourned the meeting after facilitating the brainstorming activity.