First UMC Arlington

Church Council, March 19, 2024

Agenda

Members Present:

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| Betty Dalton | Edward Castillo | Heather Hanson |
| Molly Hayes | Kim Crawford | Holly Maxwell |
| Loni Fancher | Kirby Warren | Betsy Spencer |
| Macy Craft | Madison Boboltz | Johnnie Sue Bucek |
| Janet Gray | Annie Gray | Cathy Olson |
| Betsi Goode | Chris Hayes | Shawn Dickler |
| Kay Lancaster | Rich Crosier | Luke Morton |
| Jacki Reininga | Taylor Jackson |  |

1. Welcome – Holly Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm
2. Strategic Initiatives Updates
   1. Tell Our Story – Rev. Dr. Chris Hayes reported he’s approaching this from 3 angles: 1) help equip individuals within the congregation tell their own faith story; 2) sharing the incredible story of First UMC Arlington, past & present; 3) There is United Methodist theology we have failed to talk about much in the world and the theology of grace we have. We genuinely believe there’s a place for everybody. Chris has put together a team of storytellers (Jim Reeves, Jim Douglas, Beth Henkel, Jacki Reininga) who are gathering to figure out best ways to ask people their stories and best format.
      1. Asked people to think about 1) their own story of faith; and 2) if we ask you to share your story, please say yes.
      2. Example – Edward Castillo
         1. Background info – what do you like outside of faith, how do you relate?
         2. What keeps you coming to First UMC Arlington?
         3. 1-2 most important things about your faith or your church that sustain you through the other 6 days of the week?
   2. Maximize Caring & Healing – Rev. Kay Lancaster reported that she attended a training on how to establish caring ministries to see what holes need to be filled, what needs to be tweaked. Starting up depression group in April; grief group for spring; putting more volunteers in place to help send cards, make calls & visits. Requesting prayer throughout this transition.
3. Committee Reports
   1. Finance – Kim Crawford
      1. Financial Report – great January, not as great February, outspent revenue by $97k (planned to outspend it by $82k, so somewhat expected). No major repairs in Jan/Feb, so prayers that continues.
      2. Have been paying principal on HVAC loan; have been setting aside money for our apportionments (plan to accrue monthly & pay quarterly.
      3. Finance committee members are going to start visiting Sunday school classes to thank them for their generosity & encourage continued giving.
      4. David Jackson dusting off building use committee to increase building use & potentially help offset some of our costs.
   2. Trustees – Betty Dalton
      1. Having meeting after CC to take care of banking practice business (to handle Mary leaving/Heather taking over)
         1. Voting on transition of all the banking requirements to cover our activity.
      2. Facility improvements
         1. Completed – A/V capabilities in Great Hall; HVAC update – new chillers installed, all piping to bring chilled water to four air handlers in children’s wing is complete.
         2. Four new coils installed, awaiting program finalizations and water flow optimizations.
      3. Hosting events & activities – trying to come up with some that balance out/increase revenue.
         1. AISD ESL/GED classes (4 days a week); Green Oaks cleaning; Cloud covered streets; Arlington Charities mobile food truck; folklorico dance practice; ASP; local neighborhood associations; Spanish worship; troop 517; DSPNT Dual Language training; Taste Community Kitchen; Young Life Capernaum; A Look Ahead (ARC of DFW); Kiwanis x2; Rotary.
      4. Investment portfolio is stable, nothing new to report at things time.
   3. PPR – Rob Franz? 🡪 Holly Maxwell took over b/c Rob was not present.
      1. Intro Heather Hanson – she intro’d herself/told CC about herself.
      2. Michelle Clark leaving – reception Sunday at 10 am in the Great Hall
      3. Rob Franz sent email about financial contribution – reach out to him to coordinate contributing.
4. Other Announcements/Next Meeting
   1. Next week is Holy Week – be here to experience and to be hospitality/greet, etc. (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Egg Hunt & Family Picnic, Easter 8 am, 9 am, & 11 am.
   2. Good Friday Pilgrimage for Peace – Friday @ 10 am, meet in the North Parking Lot
   3. Loni Fancher – Director of Youth Formation; can always have more volunteers, more donuts, more snack supper sign-ups.
   4. Rev. Kay Lancaster – Direct of Adult Formation; need more First Friday volunteers (people on the waiting list are adults who are calm)
   5. Rev. Molly Hayes – Director of Community Connections: Kid’s Hope mentoring program starting in the fall; looking for mentors, prayer partners, and more.
      1. Reporter from The Arlington Report is coming to cover Cloud Covered Streets and our ministry there.
5. Closing Prayer – Rev. Madison Boboltz
6. Meeting adjourned @ 6:45 pm.