

Tapestry Church Board Meeting

Monday, July 19, 2021

6:30 P.M.-via Zoom

In attendance: Bill Baron, Curtis Clingerman, Nina Eads, Liza Fultz, Matt Fultz, Randy Johnson, Susan McNeely, Sarah Nguyen, Angie Opsahl, Betty Sisco, Linda Speziale, Joanne Underwood, Cory Glover, John Kixmiller, and Tapestry member Tammy Horsthemke.

DEVOTIONS

Susan McNeely read a prayer from a favorite book: It's Been One of those Days, Lord, entitled "Overflow". The prayer encouraged us to provide an overflow of virtues to those in most need. "Every well runs dry," but we need to have enough extra strength, grace, and faith in our cup to share with those who are broken in spirit or need our help. We pray that we continue to be reminded of the "joy of giving and sharing our faith."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May meeting were approved, following a motion by Bill Baron, and seconded by Sarah Nguyen.

OLD BUSINESS

Randy stated that he is postponing Financial Review discussion until August.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Tapestry Church Scholarship Fund at CTS. After receiving a reminder from CTS, Randy and Cory have submitted Ryan Meeks to be our recipient. Ryan is seeking a Master of Divinity degree from Wesley Seminary at Indiana Wesleyan University and is a member of Tapestry. We hope that the request will be approved, and approximately \$1,200 will be sent to the University to cover his school expenses.
2. Building Use Policy. Cory presented an updated draft of the Building Use Policy to the Board. (*Refer to details in packet.*) Cory stressed that it's important Tapestry be viewed as hospitable, and he asked for input/questions from board members on the draft he has prepared. The following discussion centered on these issues:
 - A. Should the cost of all extra fees be listed in the form to be completed? And should there be a set time for returning a fee in case of cancellation? Will the cost for renting the space be different for members of the church?
 - B. What is the exact role of the church host? Should there be a separate wedding policy? Who has the final responsibility on approval of the rental? Who has the authority to waive fees?
 - C. What is our legal liability in renting this space?

Following a lengthy discussion, the Board recommended that legal and perhaps insurance advice be sought to answer certain concerns before it approves the Rental Policy in August. Cory will also revise the written draft to reflect our discussion.

3. Personnel Committee Report. Chair Susan McNeely presented the report, stating that it is recommending that Tapestry Church seek two individuals to fill Shannon's position: a youth director for twenty hours per week, and a children's director at ten hours per week. Cory is in the process of reaching out to various resources and will be initially screening the candidates. He will also consult with members with children. Curtis, Sarah and Susan will be involved with interviewing candidates. Cory asked the board members to take the initiative to contact possible applicants in the community as well as local colleges.

4. In Conversation with Risen Lord Lutheran Church. Randy relayed to the Board a recent informal conversation held with leaders of the Lutheran Church, located in Bargersville. This conversation came about as a result of two “out of the blue” conversations recently with two acquaintances who are members of RLLC. Cory, Randy, Angie and Karen Dickerson represented Tapestry. We learned that RLLC is an “open and affirming” congregation, and they have a Montessori preschool in their building. They have a large church property; however, they are facing challenges in decreasing attendance.
 - A. The essence of this informal gathering was to see if there might be projects, missions, or activities that we might partner in ministry. After telling our story and learning more about the prospects that RLFC presented, the meeting concluded with both groups feeling enthusiastic about the possibilities of joining in these endeavors.
 - B. A second meeting has been scheduled to determine what two or three ways we might work together in Outreach; additionally, Karen will be discussing the meeting with the Design Team. Randy and Cory agree that there is “real potential” for a future relationship between the two congregations.
 - C. The Board concurred that Randy and Cory need to make our congregation aware of these discussions, both in person and through written communication. We will continue to be as transparent as possible.
5. Request from Stewardship & Finance. Matt Fultz presented an opportunity in connection with Church Extension to upgrade our technology. Our share of the cost would be \$1,981.50. Matt stated that we have monies in the Discretionary Fund and the Replacement Fund to cover this amount. Following discussion, Matt made a motion that \$1,000 be taken from the Replacement Fund, and \$981.50 be taken from the Discretionary Fund. Joanne seconded the motion. And the board approved with a show of hands.
6. Diaconate Discussion. Cory led a discussion on the future of our Diaconate Program. Now that we are not serving communion as traditionally done in the past, he is suggesting we consider other ways the Diaconate members can serve. In his on-going emphasis on building leaders in service to the church, Cory thinks there are ways to broaden this program. Suggestions included giving this team the opportunity to help on Sunday in other capacities, i.e., Greeting, Common Ground, and signing in attendees. Board members concurred that the role of the Diaconate needs to be redefined.
 - ❖ Randy reminded the board that Leadership Development will be meeting soon for finding leaders for the following year, and any decisions need to be in place prior to that time.
7. Treasurer’s Report. (*Refer to written report.*) Curtis stated that giving continues to exceed budget; however, the audit expense will narrow that gap. He also mentioned that Stewardship and Finance will soon be asking for committees to provide their budgets so that they can begin planning for 2022. In addition, S&F will be reviewing the restricted accounts to understand the intent of those accounts and determine if any can be closed.

MINISTRY REPORTS

1. Elders. Joanne reported that the Elders met in person for the first time “in a long time.” They continue to concentrate on arranging visits and other contacts with our homebound members.

2. Oversight. (*See written report.*)

- A. Connections. Linda reported that Family Night at Victory Field for an Indians game is Friday, August 27. A great fireworks show will follow the game.
- B. Lisa mentioned that Common Ground's offering outside refreshments between services seems to be successful. It's a good way for those who attend either service to spend a few minutes of social time together.
- C. Regarding the upcoming Women's Retreat, Cory announced that registration has been re-opened. Dianne Bennett has stepped in to lead the program. She belongs to an on-line women's group that is headed by Heather Baxter, a well-known Pastoral Coach and author. Dianne has contacted her, and she has agreed to lead the study portion of the retreat, via Zoom. The theme of the retreat is "Bloom where you are Planted."

❖ Randy reminded the Board that because of our Ministerial Code of Ethics, Shannon could not be the leader of this retreat. One of the stipulations of the code is that once a minister has resigned, he or she "must sever ties for a while." He regrets the misunderstanding. He asked members to explain this code to anyone with questions.

3. Staff Members. Cory emphasized the upcoming dates:

- A. August 7 – Tapestry Night at Mallow Run Winery. A roped off area will be set aside for Tapestry.
- B. August 8 – This Sunday, we will pause before beginning the next step in our Journey of Faith. There will be Blessings on backpacks for kids returning to school as well as for educators, and Cory and his family will be joining the church on that day as well! And he is encouraging anyone who wishes to join the church on that date to contact him.
- C. In response to the Green Team, August messages will focus on the importance of the church's role in caring for our environment.
- D. In September, a gathering with a meal will be held for potential new members, followed by a three-week orientation of our denomination and of Tapestry Church.
- E. John mentioned that Movie Night will have its last showing this upcoming Thursday. In addition, He and Steve Smith will be leading a Disciples I class beginning August 31st. It will include 25 weeks of studying an overview of the Bible. The class of 10-12 will meet in person on Tuesday evenings for an hour and a half.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 16, 2021, at 6:30pm.

Linda Speziale volunteered to lead Devotions.

John closed the meeting in Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

