

NUMC Ministries Council – 4/17/2024

NEXT MEETING: May 15, 2024, In Person

In attendance: Darren CW, Angie Kattmann, Heidi Horton, Alan Archibald, Mary Larkins, Eric Lekberg, Brandon Wallace, Brooke Baker, Amy Sell, Carol Tiller, Eric Galloway, Sunil Kotian, Lydia Shaw



Opening Devotion

Short Prayer by DCW

Words of Welcome Proposal/ West Entry Signage Proposal

- Discussion on how best to enact the proposal to add a formal time of Welcome to the beginning of each worship service.
- Shall appear as “Words of Welcome” in the bulletin instead of Greetings. Announcement will become its own item.
- Words of Welcome will be done most Sundays by laity. Nancy Ricketts will help identify who will do it. It will likely be the same person for all 4 Sundays of each month to make identifying volunteers easier, maybe members of the Board or Ministries Council.
- First week will be May 5, Youth Sunday. Brandon will work with the Youth to script what is said.
- West Entry sign is good as proposed, but Darren would like a second sign on the right side of the West Entry door that functions as a Weekday sign, it should replace the paper signs in window (i.e., the FedEx/UPS sign, and the Bread and Bowl sign) and should also contain Weekday hours.
- Unanimous Votes for both

Clergy/Staff Changes

- Darren introduced the discussion on the staff positions.
 - Darren told the Superintendent that NUMC might want to slow walk an appointment.
 - Ann asked why, and Darren said the Superintendent being unable to appt has to do with issues on their side.
 - DWC says we are at a fork in the road, either tell the conference get it done or Say No Thank you, we will work on this as a congregation to discern what we should do.
 - On that path, we pick part time or temp people to backfill.
 - Ann asked if we could look outside the conference, DWC said Yes
 - Darren said depending on who you hire, it could insulate us from the appointment process.
 - Lay hire
 - Social Worker or Community Organizer
 - Another Denomination
 - Non-UM Methodist
 - Find a UM Deacon

- Hired but not Appointed.
 - Can get Sacramental Privileges
 - Alan said he supports not going the APPTMENT way. He said we should use GC 2024 to network and talk to progressive conference and others.
 - Lydia said that M&O is not well served by the Appointment process. That has been the history of M&O at North Church.
 - Darren said we need to set the appropriate salary level we can now afford.
 - Darren charged Orson to carry the discussion about our dissatisfaction to the Conference.
 - Eric L. said he bit his tongue on the call with the Superintendent.
 - Darren answered How many churches have Multiple Staff - 9 churches.
 - There are 2 other churches like us -
 - St Joseph in Ft Wayne
 - Plainfield
 - Darren proposes that we do a part-time hire for M&O
 - Darren picks up JAT and Green Team
 - Part-time for Pastoral Care, including Visitation (work with Allen McCormick)
 - Darren thinks we have people we could use to help with this.
 - Orson said we should hunt for Deacons, Amy advised we do that on our own.
 - Orson said we should be clear about what kind of church we are or want to be.
 - Alan knows people who knows people who know people who might be interested.
- Darren says no bites on the finance director.

Anything Else? - nothing

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

- May 15, in person
- June 19
- July 17
- August 21
- September 18
- October 16
- November 20
- December 18

Closing