

Ministries Council Minutes

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

In Attendance: Alan A., Darren CW, Kelley W., Cory U., Kathy S., Ronnie B., Lydia S., Amy S., Carolyn S., Laura B., Eric G.

Absent: Nicci G., Jeanie S.

- Welcome thought: Where did you see Jesus in your area of ministry?
 - Ronnie shared his experience in Mexico, family sharing of where God has moved in their lives.
 - Amy told about a special parent appreciation message.
 - Cory shared Young Adult Game Night, had a lot more people than expected and they expressed a strong wish to stay connected.
 - Lydia shared how at her tutoring at School #43 she was touched when the children greeted her with such enthusiasm.
 - Alan shared that in middle school Sunday school class, one of the boys said he was amazed that humankind has made so much progress ...especially that life expectancy has gotten so much longer. He was alluding to being both amazed and comforted that before falling asleep he was mathematically very likely to wake up in the morning and the sharing of every day anxiety was a special moment.

- Alan opened with a prayer.
- Committee Reports:
 - Worship and Arts - (KW)
 - Lots of good comments about advent season
 - Many positive comments about having single service at 11AM for both Christmas and New Years
 - Lela has some stuff she is percolating.
 - Youth (CU and KS)
 - Anatomy of a Believer Lenten Retreat coming up
 - 6th grade will be in youth from beginning of the year; welcome pool party planning with Ange Cahoon
 - TNT/SPF planning for summer youth
 - ASP is being put together, Cory's first year.
 - Mission and Outreach (RB, LS, CS):
 - IHN is coming up Feb 24th
 - Youth are serving Dinner
 - Forums for international missions
 - Nandiyosi Forum coming up, hopefully a decision-making event, a time of discernment
 - GIP. Umoja and North's role with them (March 4th)
 - Denise S is talking about a trip to Kenya.
 - Farmers Market - looking for Market Manager.
 - Green Team Book Exchange coming up Sunday.
 - Our relationship with School #43 to be evaluated this year.
 - Kenya Trip (see picture at end of minutes)
 - (Welcome Carolyn S.!!!)
 - Children's Ministries (AS and Lauren)
 - Lenten Retreat

- Pacers Game
- Indy Fuel
- Great News (4 more babies coming by Fall)
- Christmas Eve play written and revised already. Thank you Denise C. (This year will be Amy Sells 20th year to do Christmas children's programming.)
- D&F
 - Amy and Eric met in January and in February to clarify focus prior to engaging a team
- Darren information (BOD)
 - Board approved budget, only about \$25,000 off of pledge goal. Have achieved what we need to run internally. Will likely pay church tithe later in year to allow flexibility.
 - Sent out last round of Pledge reminders.
 - Josh has been getting in touch with everyone who uses EFT in order to help them "re-up"
- Alan shared Board of Directors did not meet in January. At December meeting Trustees shared wish list for building:
 - Bridal room needs to be replaced.
 - Main floor restrooms need replacing, particularly those near the Parlor.
 - Board members noted that restrooms are a significant factor in forming first impressions for church visitors. In addition to being old, we lack ADA compliance in terms of access to the restrooms (as well as our current West entry' ramp).
 - The West entry could be "modernized." Board members thought the Trustees might want to hold off on a detailed discussion of the West entry as the North entry near the Chapel would presumably be serving more traffic if the parking lot is expanded as part of the Land Development initiative. As a result, the two entries should be considered as part of a package, but for how use patterns may change and as a result, any upgrades or other changes that would be needed.
 - The Hospitality Committee and Ministries Council should be included in those discussions as well as consulted for any other wish-list additions (or suggested priorities).
 - Send Feedback to Eric Oehler and CC: Chuck Teague

Feedback and Evaluation':

- Communication Audit – Pastor Darren recommended MC put together an Ad Hoc committee once a year to review our communications for effectiveness and learning. They would meet with Laura Halt, to review policy and procedure as well as our communications efforts. Lydia and Laura said yes to this Task Force. (Darren gave Epiphany cards as an example of something that needs to be evaluated).
- Next was electronic communications and social media - New NorthNet - Laura sent out sign up emails in December and January. To date we have for A&P 163 and for Convos 122, DCW wondered if NorthNet is more or less popular now that there are so many other Social Media streams. Alan asked if there are attachments on NorthNet and how many people are on our Facebook and other NUMC Social Media. Amy says there are 539 Likes on Facebook. DCW says our Twitter account has 97 followers. Amy said that social media version might impact numbers on newsletter statistics. Darren mentioned the Worship Blog and its interconnectedness with Facebook.
- Alan asked for additional feedback on Advent, Christmas, the Spring Book, etc.
 - Amy and Eric had met to discuss the MC schedule and the main church events.
 - Eric will forward to Alan the information to put on the MC Agenda.

- Survey Monkey - Alan shared the idea of using a single question about the events we do to gather feedback about church events and activities. Includes simple question and opportunity to add narrative to it (e.g. "Would you recommend this product/event to a friend?")
 - Laura asked if it is connected to people's names or contact information. Alan suggested that names could be scrubbed if desired.
 - Laura asked what would be the purpose of the feedback? To gather nice feelings or to get honest feedback. Maybe to get information about what people's responses were.
 - Question would be targeted for specific events and activities.
 - Amy pointed out that there are a large variety of styles of questions that can be asked on the Survey Monkey site.
 - Amy and Eric Lekberg have used Survey Monkey to gather information about children's ministries. (What do you like about our programming, what topics should we address, what is the best way to get in touch with you...etc. etc.) It was definitely helpful.
 - Kathy suggested that we are often overwhelmed by surveys and we should be judicious in our use of surveys.
 - Laura suggested this would be a good idea if we have a good question to ask, it's as good as the question.
- Spring Fling / Easter Egg Hunt - March 24th – Children's ministry and outreach

Ministries Council Agenda

February 7, 2018

1. Welcome thoughts: How have you encountered Jesus in your ministry area or in other ways in this new year? (everyone is invited to share)
2. Committee reports
 - a. Ministry areas
 - b. Board of Directors update — approved 2018 budget of about \$948,000; no Board meeting in Jan due to weather.
 - c. Trustee Wish List: They would like us to participate in the planning for improvements
 - Bridal room needs to be replaced.
 - The West entry could be "modernized."
 - Main floor restrooms need replacing, particularly those near the Parlor.
 - Board members noted that restrooms are a significant factor in forming first impressions for church visitors. In addition to being old, we lack ADA compliance in terms of access to the restrooms (as well as our current West entry' ramp).
 - Board members thought the Trustees might want to hold off on a detailed discussion of the West entry as the North entry near the Chapel would presumably be serving more traffic if the parking lot is expanded as part of the Land Development initiative. As a result, the two entries should be considered as part of a package, but for how use patterns may change and as a result, any upgrades or other changes that would be needed.
 - The Hospitality Committee and Ministries Council should be included in those discussions as well as consulted for any other wish-list additions (or suggested priorities).
3. Feedback and Evaluation
 - a. Advent and Christmas review —we started this at last meeting; how do you feel about your ministry area's participation in Advent and Christmas?

- b. Calendar preparation for Spring book —what worked in the planning process?
- c. General Feedback conversation —do you currently have an effective way to gather feedback both positive and constructive in your ministry area?
- d. Communication audit—group to review communications for learning & effectiveness
- e. Survey Monkey —a current (big data) way to gather feedback; something to consider at a later meeting if we would like

Additional items?

Adjournment

2018 KENYA TRIP

Join us on a visit to the Umoja Project in western Kenya. The purpose of this trip is to strengthen the relationships among GIP partners in Indiana and western Kenya.



Sunday, June 17 - Wednesday, July 4

\$3,600 includes airfare, meals, ground transportation, accommodations and activities.

Group size limited to 20. To reserve your spot, please submit \$1,000 and a copy of your passport by January 31.



Primary activities include:

- Visiting schools and homes,
- Getting to know current and former Umoja students,
- Meeting with guardians, teachers and faith leaders,
- Spending time with staff and advisory council, and
- Joining the community to build a home for a student.



We will explore Kenya's natural beauty and wildlife with visits to sites such as Crescent Island Game Park, Hippo Point, and a game park safari. While we are in Kenya, we plan to visit Eldoret to see other Indiana-related organizations, including Ampath (IU-Kenya Partnership) and Imani Workshops.

Accommodations are modest, clean and safe and have mosquito nets. We contract with a Kenyan travel company to provide in-country transportation throughout our visit.

We will hold mandatory orientation sessions at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 6 and Sunday, June 10. Details to follow.

Travelers will meet with a travel doctor and obtain malaria medication and required vaccinations. We will carry basic health forms for each traveler, as well as consent to travel and permission to obtain treatment forms for those under 18. Safety is a concern with any travel. We closely monitor the political situation in Kenya and will do our best to avoid any possibility of danger. Our trip will be registered with the U.S. State Department, and we carry travel insurance.

To learn more or reserve your spot, contact Celia Booher at celia.booyer@globalinterfaithpartnership.org.



Global Interfaith Partnership

CHULAIMBO, KENYA • INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

GlobalInterfaithPartnership.org