

Ad Council Meeting 08/22/2022

Attendees

Pastor Paul Craig	Margaret Todd	Terry Efrid
Pastor Corey Millet	Lee Goldstein	Debbie
Pastor Jenny Savage	Amanda McGrath	Suzanne Pugh
Jon Pollack	Karin Dunham	Greg Klein
Amy DeVore	Ken Merchant	Phillip Tate
Fred DeVore	Nancy Harris	
Carol Hatcher	Susie Verrill	Kaitlin Klotz
Sam Hatcher	Becky Yates	
Tyleta Morgan	John Millen	

- I. Call To Order/Opening Prayer/Leadership Covenant: Jon Pollack
- II. Mental Health Ministry Updates: Becky Yates
 - a. There's Hope: The Church and Mental Health Symposium Announcement: Becky Yates
 - i. October 27th at 7:00 PM
 - ii. Keynote Speaker Dr. Warren Kinghorn (from Duke Divinity School)
 - iii. Panelists Todd Clark and Gina Duncan
 - b. August 23rd: The Art of Empathetic Listening with Jenny Hopper
 - c. September 26th: Discussion of Addictions
- III. Spending Priorities Background: Jon Pollack
 - a. No decision will be asked for tonight-it's about getting the information and discussing it for feedback
 - b. 2021 year-end unrestricted cash exceeded expectations
 - c. A spending priorities subcommittee of the Ad council was started by Lee Goldstein and Suzanne Pugh and they worked for ~4 months to learn the spending priorities of the church
 - d. After listening, they learned that the priorities of the congregation were worship and connection (making online and virtual meetings easier)
 - i. Room 94 outfitted to simulcast live and virtual meetings
 - ii. The Commons and the Gym have been identified as other spaces in the church to provide communication technologies
 - iii. Upgrades to the sanctuary to make it Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant were the top priority
 - iv. The HVAC system has outlived its life expectancy and will need replacement in the near future-the sanctuary will be the first replacement
 - v. Lighting, screens, and sound amplification was identified as another area for necessary sanctuary upgrades
 - e. If we are going to make the suggested upgrades, a capital campaign will be the most logical way to go about it.
 - i. Capital campaigns can only be approved during Charge Conference

- f. Cost estimates have been generated and we will discuss in this meeting, and we will decide as an Ad Council whether we want to pursue these facility upgrades
- IV. Vision Statement for a Possible Capital Campaign: Lee Goldstein
- a. Update and improve the sanctuary and supporting areas to provide the ability for all people to fully participate in transforming the world through Jesus Christ
 - b. Sanctuary Improvements
 - i. Replace HVAC units which cool/heat the sanctuary (current unit is 27 years old and was only estimated to work for 20)
 - ii. Create access to the chancel area so that everyone will be able to fully participate in church activities-the changes will reflect ADA requirements
 - iii. Remodel the sanctuary reception area and welcome desk
 - iv. Paint the sanctuary
 - v. Replace lighting behind right stained glass to LED
 - c. Chancel Area Improvements
 - i. Adjust riser width-This will enhance safety and accessibility for the choir, band, and handbell players
 - ii. Make more space in the chancel (extend out toward congregation, piano and organ move)
 - iii. Create a semi-circle for the choir to enhance performance and sound quality
 - iv. Adjust the riser heights to enhance performance
 - v. Space to relocate the drum set-recommended to move the drums closer to the piano and out of obvious visual sight
 - vi. Changing flooring in the chancel area-move from cement to a wood product. Sound quality enhancement
 - vii. Add choral shell for sound quality improvement-this shell will not distract from the stained-glass windows
 - viii. Add storage for standard equipment-there are currently large speakers that impede access and are visible-they would be built into the new area
 - ix. Improve the microphone system to prevent hanging chancel microphones overhead-this will maintain sound quality while improving overhead visual impact
 - d. Questions
 - i. Are the aspects of the improvements that are most necessary being prioritized the highest?
 - 1. Yes-ADA compliance and HVAC will be handled first
 - ii. Are we leaving the gym and commons alone for now?
 - 1. No-Private donations have assisted with this decision
 - iii. Is there a timeline and how will we accommodate the day-to-day functions of the church during the upgrades?
 - 1. The timeline will come together after discussion and a decision to pursue the upgrades. The preliminary research of the subcommittee show that we would still be able to hold all church functions with little or no interruption.

- iv. Are all upgrades going to occur concurrently
 - 1. The commons and gym will likely happen concurrently.
 - v. If we are to move forward with the Capital Campaign, would we continue with Refresh & Renew to update smaller projects?
 - 1. Yes-this would be a separate fund entirely-there is also funding in the endowment and the General Fund should a need arise
 - vi. How is Refresh & Renew funded?
 - 1. Annual pledges of giving
 - 2. This fund is for small projects
 - 3. Average ~\$3000/month
 - 4. Current balance is just under \$100,000
- V. Current Cost Estimate for the Campaign: John Millen
- a. The only concrete estimate is the HVAC
 - i. Cost will be 325k-475k based on multiple bids received .
 - b. Initial meeting with Edifice (firm has completed several church renovations in the area, notably Calvary)
 - i. Edifice recommended architectural firm that they work with and has handled church renovations
 - c. The proposed by the architectural firm is \$56,250.00
 - i. Schematic Design: \$14,000
 - ii. Design Development: \$15,500
 - iii. Construction Documents: \$16,875
 - iv. Bidding and Negotiation: \$2,875
 - v. Construction Contract Administration: \$7,000
 - d. Questions:
 - i. Do we have a list of specific upgrades we want?
 - 1. Yes-should the Ad Council decide to pursue this Capital Campaign has a detailed list of updates to be incorporated-these will have drawings from the architects
 - ii. Will we need any support firms?
 - 1. They will be handled by a general contractor
 - iii. Will the improvements be made without needing to bring anything else in the church “up to code?”
 - 1. ADW believes that this should not be a problem
- VI. Campaign Process: Jon Pollack
- a. First Steps:
 - i. Take a vote to proceed with more due diligence
 - 1. This is not a vote to approve the capital campaign-we’re talking about 2 things:
 - a. Approval of the \$56,000 from excess unrestricted cash
 - b. Creation of a building committee (required by the Book of Discipline)
 - i. 7-member committee
 - 1. Would start work immediately

- 2. Should have diversity of experience and expertise
- 3. Would ask questions of architectural firm and make recommendations
- c. We do not need district approval-the district does need to be informed but we do not need their approval
 - i. This is because the church campus is valued at \$11 million, and the suggested upgrades would cost between \$1.2 million and \$1.7 million
 - 1. In order to require district approval, the updates would have to be valued at or more than 25% of our valuation
- d. Should the Ad Council approve the \$56,000 for plans, the plans would likely be ready by the end of September
- e. A Charge Conference is required to approve a capital campaign
 - i. Charge Conference is scheduled for November and if \$56,000 for plans are approved in tonight's meeting, we will have hard figures for the upgrades and drawings of what the improvements will look like to assist the congregation in visualizing how the

VII. Discussion and Discernment: Everyone

- a. Does our congregation have the interest for this? Do we have a tipping point here that may push people out of the church?
 - i. We did get this idea out of a 4-month process of congregational feedback
- b. Should we present the congregation with the fact that we would be using extra money and then asking for congregational support of a capital campaign?
 - i. The discovery discussions identified several high priority needs that would need a Capital Campaign to support the upgrades
 - ii. This is a follow-up to the Faithful Next Steps
- c. How do we ask for support in the Capital Campaign without diluting support for other funds?
 - i. We would emphasize that the Capital Campaign is "above and beyond" giving
- d. When the discovery discussions were started, money was no object. If we do approach these upgrades, would the same surveyed people be committed to supporting the campaign now that money is an object?
 - i. We're assuming that the participants didn't think this would be a no-cost scenario.

VIII. Next Steps: Everyone

- a. Unofficial vote for proceeding with discovery
 - i. Affirmative: 19

- b. Motion to vote to approve architectural firm fees \$56,000-Motioned by Becky Yates Seconded by John Millen
 - i. Vote for to approve \$56,000
 - 1. Affirmative: 18
 - c. Motion to vote to approve building committee-Motioned by Terry Efrid Seconded by Greg Klein
 - i. Vote to approve building committee
 - 1. Affirmative: 17
- IX. Summer Camp Update: Pastor Paul Craig
 - a. Age-level Ministries has provided valuable support to:
 - i. Vacation Bible School
 - 1. Staff was approved to assist with supervising VBS participants
 - 2. We will need to find different ways to do what we have done in the past-how can we begin to plan for next year?
 - ii. Rainbow Express
 - 1. Young Adult Camp has grown to be larger than the daytime camp (130-135 campers each with their own buddy bringing the total number of participants to ~270)
 - 2. Several families visited to the church following Rainbow Express
 - iii. Music & Arts Camp
- X. Financial Update: Greg Klein
 - a. Year to date through July, revenue = 1,405,000.00
 - i. Slightly less than budget of 1,476,000.00
 - b. July ended a 3-month trend of being under budget → we were actually over budget
 - c. The final months of the year, revenue increases (particularly in December)
 - d. With expenses, we are \$179,000.00 under budget (year-to-date through the end of July)
 - e. A few positions have been filled
 - f. We will need to watch our revenue and expenses through the end of the year.
 - g. We are doing better than budgeted by just over \$100,000 (this is a good place to be)
 - h. We have 3.1 months of cash on hand for expenses (our goal is to be at 3.0 months, so we're in a decent place).
- XI. Sticky Notes (Re-engagement) Update from Last Ad Council Meeting: Pastor Paul Craig & Carol Hatcher
 - a. The all-church gathering had a theme of how we can get people to re-engage with the church
 - b. Sticky notes were placed around the room so that everyone would come up with 2 ideas for 3 areas
 - i. Congregation
 - ii. Small Groups
 - iii. Service

- c. Raw data (ideas) were divided into ministry teams or a management team for action
 - d. Most immediately approachable ideas
 - i. Different ways to advertise the church
 - 1. Ask those who are serving to wear MUMC T-shirts
 - a. T-shirts are in the front office and the reception desk and can be provided to volunteers to wear while serving and out in the community
 - ii. How can we create more inter-generational activities?
 - 1. Age-level ministries has really done a good job of taking the initiative here
 - 2. Quarterly activities planned to start in September
 - 3. Intergenerational group studies
 - a. The Good and Beautiful God in the fall
 - b. A Life Worth Living (also in the fall)
 - 4. Dinners
 - a. Lenten Pancake dinner
 - iii. Recreational activities
 - 1. Pickleball
 - 2. Disc-golf
 - 3. Church Softball Leagues
- XII. School Update/Departure of Telra: Pastor Paul Craig
- a. Telra concluded their tenancy on July 31st. Options are being considered for future use of space within MUMC. Debbie Fitts is creating a document and procedures for further exploration of tenants.
- XIII. Closing Prayer: Pastor Paul Craig