

Minutes of the Leadership Council Meeting

November 23, 2014 – 6:00pm

Present: Pastors Matt Dressler, Dave Kirsch and Lloyd Andersen; Leona Andersen; Gary Clow
Sandra Clow; Tanya McLaren; June Hunt

Luke 12:1-10 “Meanwhile” ...just prior to this, Jesus had been verbally challenged by the Pharisees and he firmly warned them of the six woes that would come upon them because of their outward godliness (legalism) but lack of concern for the real essence of the gospel. In Luke 12:1 Jesus begins to talk privately to his disciples, while crowds gather outside, warning them to be on guard about what the Pharisees said - who knew what was going on, since their meetings were held in secret and behind closed doors. In verse 10 Jesus reminds them that anyone who speaks against him personally can be forgiven, but those who blaspheme against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. The disciples really needed to be grounded in the end.

An extended time of sharing and prayer for personal, CBC Ministry, BC Association, and Conference items followed.

BUSINESS

Pastor Matt reported that the Pastors Board has spent the last six months evaluating some of the real or perceived challenges that our church faces. This evaluation covered items such as attendance, both on Sundays and at planned events; the format of the Sunday morning services; small groups ministry struggles; finances, etc. Each of the pastors has read several books to help give some insight into how we might address some of these concerns.

Attendance

- While regular Sunday attendance and a lack of numerical growth are matters for concern, we are encouraged that 18 adults + half-a-dozen or more children have been added to our church family this year, and who attend regularly.
- At family and other events planned over the past couple of years, attendance has been abysmal. Also, many regular ministries, e.g. Small (home study) Groups start off with a bang, but numbers dwindle towards the end of the session. We must ask ourselves if these events are of value. If not, are we prepared to expend so much energy and cost to offer events that most people have no interest in attending?

Sunday Service format

- One of the primary factors that bring new people back to our church is the friendliness of the people. It was decided that the welcome time is valuable in connecting people and should stay. We should also try to extend that warmth by inviting someone out to coffee, or home, following the service or later in the week.
- Introduce a new person/family to others with whom you feel they would be comfortable.

Finance

- For the first time ever, we failed to meet budget at the close of 2013, but the expected crisis did not occur. Pastor Matt invited the treasurers to give an update of our current status.
- Tanya reported that the overall picture is healthy, only 2-3 weeks behind in budget giving, though we do experience cash flow issues which require us to be shrewd in financial management.
- Our final mortgage payment is due at the end of the month, lowering next year's expense budget by \$36,000, so we should consider implementing a project for maintenance, or should we consider a long-range plan rather than just a 'fix up'? We will discuss this at the budget meeting in January.

The pastors will continue to discuss these issues further and report back next year. The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted

June Hunt

Recording Secretary, Leadership Council

