Bothell United Methodist Church

GOVERNING BOARD Minutes
March 26, 2019

Members: Shelly Ainsworth, Cynthia Dickman, Patsy Ethridge-Neal, Grayson Holmes, Marty Howell, Ji-Young Kim, Candace Larson, Mary Morral, Gary Wagar, Susan Porter, Eric Trott

Excused: Bill Price, Monette Racho, Ron Kreizenbeck
Guest: Pastor Dave Orendorff

Grayson called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm when a quorum was present in the chapel.

Grayson distributed the agenda. We voted on the Special Conference Charge, and it passed.

Each person introduced him/herself and gave her/his position.

Pastor Reports
Pastor Joe played a clip from *The Greatest Showman* (about P.T. Barnum). Then asked us to reflect on what we get to do here and distributed homework materials for the Governing Board.

How do we go from attractional to missional?

The staff has already started on the book, and he’ll lead the Governing Board as well starting in the April meeting.

He led us in prayer. He’ll email us the pastoral report.

Eric asked about the Friday Islamic community meeting. Pastor told us that it’s been going well with 80 to 150 attendees on average, and Bothell UMC people have been joining as well. In the last meeting there about 40 people from our church.

Witness will be going online with opt-in option. Paper copies will be available on demand, but we’re trying to be green. We’ll also encourage the use of other forums such as Facebook or blogs. Feedback received on the need for more regular communication on Witness and other mechanisms to update the congregation.

Trustees
Aaron reported that the committee is working on annual management plan and sidings.

Question (Gary) – What message should we be sending on our signs on the side of the elevator? Need some direction or guidance. Email Gary with suggestions.

Feedback (Eric) – We should be consistent in and outside of the sanctuary.

Aaron confirmed that furnaces have been inspected and tuned. It’s also a part of the annual plan to make sure we get ahead of the curve on such issues.

Generosity
Ji-Young presented the YTD financials.
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The Generosity team proposed that we realign the credit card limit between Pastor Joe and Barb. The total granted must remain the same. We will increase Pastor Joe’s from the current $2,000 to $5,000 and reduce Barb’s limit accordingly. Barb is fine with the change. It has been discerned. Shelly will go online and adjust the limits.

**General Matters**

- Grayson brought up the proposal to add Andy on the Nomination committee. Alan mentioned that the committee is looking for more qualified people and preferably younger people such as Andy. The proposal was discerned.

- Grayson solicited feedback on the Governing Board nomination and recruiting process. Mary said that the process wasn’t clear. Alan explained the current process – announce the position availabilities to the congregation -> application (online & paper copy) -> nominate people, including yourself by following the application instructions -> discernment -> approved -> informed and invited.

  Candace suggested eliminating the application process. It may discourage people as they may not feel worthy to apply or get dejected when they apply but then get rejected. Pastor Joe explained the genesis of the application process. Alan explained that the application process helps to promote transparency and objectivity. Susan suggested calling it a form instead of an application. Shelly mentioned the UMW’s form is more of a short expression of interest and not specific to a position. Patsy would still like some way (e.g. via announcements) for people to self-select/nominate.

- Grayson and Pastor Joe confirmed that the Nomination committee is reducing the presence of Governing Board members from 4 to 2. It felt a bit heavily skewed toward GB.

- Alan explained that we’ve tried different models and best practices from surrounding churches but, so far, we have not quite found the right formula to encourage people to get involved and participate.

  Candace said that it again comes down to communication. When people find a church home, how do we help them to get involved?

  Pastor Joe admitted that we may not have the most welcoming culture and that we’re trying to find ways to celebrate inclusion and involvement. Eric offered up the idea of celebrating volunteers. Alan mentioned the idea of celebrating various groups during the May 6th event (fair of celebration).

- Grayson briefly mentioned the February retreat and invited ideas, questions, and feedback. Patsy echoed the idea.

- Grayson brought up the question of sub-committees. We currently consider them as an extension of GB, but should they be considered as separate entities? He solicited feedback on how to structure and enhance the relationship between the main GB and sub-committees.
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Candace suggests not implementing and managing the sub-committees through formal structures and rules. Trust the leads to manage their own committees and bring up issues. Aaron preferred some parameters around which to operate his committee. We agreed that it may all come back to clarifying the roles and responsibilities.

- Grayson brought up the idea of showing the community and the church that we are welcoming through decorations such as ribbons or rainbows. Pastor Joe added that, unless a person walks into our church, it’s not clear how affirming and welcoming we are.

  Candace suggested getting an artist to do a weather-proof installment. Pastor Joe suggested getting an approval first then discussing the tactics. It was voted on and discerned.

Personnel

Per the Book of Discipline, Personnel/SPR discussions are done in closed session.

Grayson led the closing devotion and adjourned the meeting at 8:28 PM.
PASTOR’S REPORT

• Changes in how we operate as a staff
  o Since being back from Paternity Leave, I took a month to settle and to feel the pulse of our staff. Again, thanks to Pastors Casey and Kristin for their leadership in that time.
  o I sensed that we were getting into a rut of tasks, as opposed to moving towards self-growth. We decided to change the way we do staff meetings. Rather than doing check-ins weekly, we have moved to online reporting on a shared document. Every staff person is asked to have their reports in by Monday and to have read all the reports by the regular Tuesday meeting. We touch on anything that came up in those reports that we need to, and then spend the rest of the time in spiritual growth and development. Currently, we are doing a chapter of Schnase’s *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations: Revised and Updated Version*.

• Eagle’s View
  o I am currently working with staff to assess and audit each of our three worship services. Soon, we will seek input from the congregations of each of the services. The basis of our assessment is whether our worship services are “passionate”?
  o Jeremy and I are also beginning to outline the roles of a Worship Committee. Its purpose will be something like: to enhance the worship experience at Bothell United Methodist Church by engaging in all senses of the human experience as we connect to God and to each other (such as visual arts, color, drama, use of space, music, etc.). This is a starting point, not the final conclusion. As he and I continue to pray about the work of this team, we will open it up to the congregation to join and adapt.
  o In preparation of an increase in worship attendance, especially of new people, Celeste and I re-worked our membership process. We have moved to “More Coffee and Conversation” and “Dinner and Conversation”. The former will be offered during both Roots and Wings services, led by Celeste, to catch everyone who wants to participate and do not come back for the previous gathering which was after Wings. Quarterly, we will have “Dinner and Conversation” at my house, so that new people can meet the pastors, hear our stories and get to know each other. We only had 1 person during Q1(2019) and will wait to have Dinner and Conversation in Q2.
  o I am working with Ron, Aaron and Gary from Governing Board, and Pastors Dave O. and Casey, to identify needs and dreams for a potential capital campaign in the near future. We will be reaching out to the congregation through focus groups and listening sessions in due time.

• Pidgeon’s View
  o Hoping to visit every Small Group before the 2018-2019 season is over
  o Working to schedule meetings with:
    ▪ Ministry Group Leader
    ▪ “Outside Group” that uses our building
Beginning to plan out sermon series through 2019, including summer, stewardship/generosity, and Advent
Identifying goals with Pastor Casey of regular ministry leaders’ gatherings
Excited to support Pastor Casey as we re-envision the Witness and release its’ first edition in updated form at the end of April!

Upcoming Important Dates

- 4/5 and 4/8 (Seattle, WA): Start of Conference work related to 2019 General Conference, meeting with Bishop as part of ethnic clergy caucus and young clergy caucus
- 4/29 – 5/4 (Fort Lauderdale, FL): Invited to preach at the National Gathering of Korean United Methodist Clergy, especially in light of 2019 General Conference
- 5/8 – 5/11 (Seattle, WA): Leader at the Un-Famous Conference hosted by the Murdock Institute and Seattle Pacific University
- 5/19 (Marysville, WA): Preaching at Marysville UMC, as part of pulpit sharing with Rev. Jenny Smith (preached at Bothell 10/14/18)
- 5/24 – 5/27 (New York, NY): Brother is graduating from his MBA program
- 7/10 – 7/14 (Kansas City, MO): Leading workshop at Youth19 event
Pastor Kristin Report to Governing Board, March 2019

Guardians of the Earth

- Continuing with the 2019 plan – bringing in an education opportunity for anyone who uses the trash receptacles, including outside groups. Recology will train us on what-goes-where on April 7th at noon. It would be great to have leadership there. Lunch will be provided.

Community Assistance

- The team has revised some of the processes and the amounts to give out from our Community Assistance Fund. Am researching using gift cards instead of writing checks. The team has increased the amounts to $50 for gas or groceries to recipients up to 3 times per year. The emphasis for this fund is for crisis or emergencies that no other local agencies assist with, so the team added some parameters for giving funds to unique needs. As an example, we gave one family $60 to help pay for a driving school, and one man $90 for a car battery.
- Am working with team to assess how to best help Dave transition out of our parking lot.
- Participating weekly at Bothell Community Kitchen developing relationships. There are frequently new people who are referred to us. My role is as an active listener and I offer whatever resources I know about.
  - Difficult or Dangerous training is on Saturday, March 30th from 9:30 – 12:30. It would be good to have staff and leadership there – anyone who wants to learn how to communicate effectively to people in crisis. This training was offered to us for free – I attended it when it was offered by NUHSA.

Bothell Area Concerns

- Responded to request to attend meetings with Bothell Police and Shoreline City staff about safe parking in our area, and with City code compliance about an upcoming project (I don’t know what this is yet)
- Attended Invitation-only event for the state of our schools with NSD and my input was filmed as a part of an upcoming documentary.
- Continuing with meetings for NSD Human Services and helping them increase their resource base, Bothell – People-Oriented-Places (a group advocating for people-first development), Threads & Treads, A Regional Coalition for Housing, Kenmore Bothell Interfaith Group.
- Facilitating a KBIG community event on March 26th at 7pm – an Interfaith Dialogue about living and dying.
- I support Barb in her communications with ICOB about our space.

Other

- Attended Northwest Leadership Institute in Boise
- Attended Webinar: “Joining God in the Neighborhood”
- Ordination interviews 3/19 – 3/22/2019
- Have been asked to serve on the PNWUMC taskforce - Hope for the Children of Africa.