

Congregational Chair Report

February 2024

The leadership team continues to meet every other month, usually on the first Wednesday of odd numbered months. Below are some miscellaneous updates.

Sharing of Hospitality Funds with the *exchange* Congregation – The Allegheny Mennonite Conference leadership council is asking congregations to donate a portion of the funds we received from the sale of the International Guest House (IGH). The exchange congregation in Winchester VA made the decision to transfer their membership to AMC in June of 2022, however the official transfer of membership to the conference did not become official until February 4, 2023. Because of the technical timing, the congregation did not receive any funds from the distribution of the IGH. The leadership council is suggesting that each congregation that received funds share a portion with the new congregation. A suggested donation of \$1,500 to \$2,000 is suggested. Our church has not spent any of the \$31,119 that we received and has earned close to \$2,000 in interest on those funds since receiving them. As chair, I am submitting a motion that we share \$2,000 with the *exchange* congregation.

Worship Start Time – The leadership team had received a request to consider changing the start of worship back to 9:30 am. After consideration we have decided, for the time being, to keep worship at 10 am.

Sunday School Space – Now that children's Sunday school has begun again, the basement Sunday school rooms have been cleared of the items that were being stored for refugee resettlement and turned back over to children's classroom space. Thanks to all who helped make this happen.

Fellowship Committee Needs – The fellowship committee needs additional volunteers to help with coffee time (each Sunday) and fellowship meals (once per month). Ankit has been an anchor for the committee but will be moving with his family this June.

Acoustic Brew Concert Series – As reported earlier via email, our building is the new home of the Acoustic Brew Concert Series. Both those from UMC and the Acoustic Brew group were very enthusiastic about the two trial concerts and agreed to move forward with making our facility the new venue for the concerts. The concerts will bring individuals in contact with our building who may have had no other reason to visit.

Building Signage Work – The leadership team and the meetinghouse committee continue to work together to create a signage plan for our building (inside and outside) that will help newcomers feel welcome and able to find their way around our building.

Updated Group Emails for Elders and Leadership Team – Please use the updated group emails when contacting the elders and/or leadership team.

umc-elders@googlegroups.com – email will be sent to pastor Kate, and elders Doug Yoder, Doug Miller, and Faith King.

umc-lt@googlegroups.com – email will be sent to elders and pastor (above) plus Joel Weidner (chair), Tim Groff (asst. chair), and Jim Rosenberger (treasurer)

Feel free to reach out to members of the LT team with questions and concerns.

Joel Weidner
Congregational chair