



Leadership Board Minutes for April 2, 2024
Parker United Methodist Church
11805 S. Pine Drive, Parker, CO 80134

Leadership Board Members:

Kim Bimestefer (Co-Chair)
Ron Wyckoff (Co-Chair)
Steve Brase
Lacye Cahill
Susan Gustin
David Haukeness
Julie Kronbach, Lay Leader
Doug McKinney

Laura Easter Rainwater, Senior Pastor
Li Roberson
Eric Ross
Elizabeth Gore Stanley
Linda Thomas
Tricia Woods, Little Blessings Preschool Director

Members joined by Zoom:

Ron Wyckoff

Members not in Attendance:

Steve Brase
David Haukeness
Tricia Woods

Visitors

Mark Jackson

- I. Call to order: Kim called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- II. Opening devotion: Lacye shared a reading on Easter as a beginning, not an end
- III. Review and approval of minutes of March 5, 2024
 - A. Julie moved to approve, Eric seconded
- IV. Senior Pastor's report
 - A. Worship updates year-to-date 2024
 1. Worship numbers are holding steady
 2. Holy Week worship attendance encouraging (as counted by ushers)
 - a. Maundy Thursday = 61
 - b. Good Friday = 79
 - c. Easter: Saturday evening = 101; 9:00= 451; 10:30 = 368. Total = 920
 3. Lacye – what about holding a Saturday evening service more often?
 4. Laura – Saturday evening services would be difficult with current staffing levels
 5. Laura – the Hospitality Team moved their tables to a new location visible to people coming in by the office and coming down the stairs.
 6. Julie – many people were struck by the decoration in the sanctuary of the open tomb with the light shining out – many thanks to all on the team who created that backdrop
 - B. Little Blessings leadership change
 1. Letter went out to parents this week announcing the change
 - a. Now time to let the congregation know through the monthly newsletter (going out tomorrow, April 3)
 - b. No major problems reported with reactions to the change
 - c. Ron – be sure to invite Emily Shaffer, incoming Director, to May 7 Leadership Board meeting

2. Little Blessings is holding a fundraiser April 26 to buy new playground equipment
 - a. Current is 25 years old
 - b. Kim – do we know what their goal is?
 - c. Laura – believes it’s about \$50,000. We will provide means for congregation to contribute to this fundraiser in the Midweek Message/monthly newsletter
3. How to recognize Tricia’s service?
 - a. Lacye – Tricia doesn’t want a big fuss from the church – more focused on time with her staff
 - b. Lacye – Little Blessings is suggesting a card shower for Tricia – could be extended to the church
 - c. Ron – what about recycling the names on the bench near the preschool entrance door?
 - d. Julie – what about a welcome-to-your-new-home gift from us on the Leadership Board when the time comes for them to move?
- C. UMC General Conference April 23 – May 3, 2024
 1. This is actually the 2020 Conference postponed by COVID
 2. Week 1 = legislative sessions; Week 2 = actual conference
 3. 8-week sermon series starting April 14 will focus on what it means to be Methodist
 4. Laura trying Thursday evening Zoom availability to talk about anything related to the sermon series

V. Business items

- A. Fellowship Hall project
 1. Laura – contract has been signed
 2. Work to start April 8
- B. Layce update on plans to acknowledge the service of the three charter members of the Leadership Board who just finished their terms (Dan O’Neill, Jack Kear, Rick Kucera)
 1. Needs to coordinate with three recipients on date they are available

VI. Team reports

- A. Building and Maintenance – Ron
 1. Nothing to report
- B. Building Future – Eric
 1. Meeting planned for April 17
- C. Christian Ed – Doug
 1. Haven’t met recently
- D. Communication – Doug
 1. Met March 10 between services; next meeting planned for April 7
 2. One goal is to make all the means of communication connect with each other
- E. Endowment – Eric
 1. Met March 5; endowment in good hands
- F. Finance – Linda
 1. Finance Committee has been going through the existing policies with Sarah and Pete
 2. Two proposed changes to the policies, will require Leadership Board approval
 3. First proposal – to pay three vendors by ACH instead of check
 - a. Wespath (benefits) – fixed amount per month
 - b. Mt Sky Conference – two payments per month
 - 1) Pastors’ insurance - fixed amount per month, adjusted annually
 - 2) Mission share (% of church income)
 - c. First Bank VISA card
 - 1) Varies from about \$7000-\$14,000 per month

- 2) Kim – what is the current approval process?
 - 3) Linda – the VISA bills are reviewed in detail by Sarah and Pete every month
 - 4) Current process requires user of VISA card to attach receipts
 - 5) Before this “big” card is used, the requester has to detail what the charge will be and to which account within the church it will be charged
 - 6) Julie – how many VISA cards does the church currently have?
 - 7) Linda – there are 4 cards with limits of \$1000 per statement cycle
 - 8) Ron – are there charge alerts on the cards?
 - 9) Linda – yes
4. Second proposal -- to increase the amount for checks to require a second signature from \$2000 to \$3500
 - a. This would mean that from 5-7 checks in a typical month would require two signatures
 5. Li moved that we approve the Finance Committee’s request to pay the three vendors by ACH
 - a. Kim seconded
 - b. Approved unanimously
 6. Kim moved that we approve the Finance Committee’s request to increase the amount for a check to require two signatures from \$200 to \$3500
 - a. Li seconded
 - b. Approved unanimously
 7. The Board also approved the brief report that Linda and Eric wrote to update the congregation on our current financial situation. The update will go out in the Monthly Newsletter tomorrow
- G. Gathering at the Lot (result of the A Table for All initiative) – Julie
1. Looking to a soft launch date of July 4 with the July Fourth celebrations
 2. Thinking of sponsoring a 3rd Thursday dinner (food trucks) during nice weather
 3. Doug – are there plans for another car show?
 4. Julie – yes, we’re working on that
- H. Groundskeeping team - Doug
1. Doug – there was a lunch at church Sunday, March 17 to launch the Grounds Team. Well-attended, some old and new faces.
 2. Church work day with Scouts planned for Saturday, May 18
 3. Doug and Ron are looking to woo new leadership in particular onto the team
- I. Health and Safety Committee update – Ron
1. Committee off to a good start
 2. Kim provided some resources from the state which has led to some improvements we want to make, for example:
 - a. Signs saying where AEDs are
 - b. Fire blanket in the kitchen
 3. Are in the process of revising the procedures
 4. We in the Leadership Board also need to be point people in case of an emergency, should expect to attend training as it becomes available
- J. Missions – Julie
1. Meeting scheduled for April 7
 2. Looking for new leaders for Feed My Starving Children
- K. Neighbors in Need – Ron
1. Looking to woo new leaders
- L. SPRC – Doug
1. Introduced the forms that we in the Leadership Board need to fill out to provide annual guidance to our clergy (Laura, Cody)

2. Due to Doug by April 9
3. Lacye – who are we representing in our comments? Just ourselves?
4. Doug – ourselves, and also the people in the church that we most come in contact with
5. Doug will collate the comments so that they are anonymous

M. Stewardship – Li

1. Nothing to report

VII. New business

A. Letter concerning church event at a location that serves alcohol

1. After extensive discussion, we reached these conclusions:
 - a. There is general support for continuing these outreach opportunities, as they have created a space where people can engage/have engaged with our church without actually coming through our doors
 - b. Though there are some possible liability concerns, we believe that the chances are so low that we are willing to accept the risk
 - c. We can improve the optics of our messaging by de-emphasizing beer and emphasizing fellowship
2. Ron and Julie will draft a response to the letter writer from the Leadership Board

VIII. What to share with the congregation?

- A. Worship numbers from Holy Week
- B. All-church work day May 18
- C. Existing teams and Leadership Board members of the teams

IX. Next meeting

- A. Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
- B. Eric will provide the devotion

X. Julie closed us in prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Review of Minutes: The meeting minutes of April 2, 2024 were submitted to Laura and Ron for review on April 6, 2024.

Susan Gustin, Leadership Board Member