

# Leadership Team Meeting

3.11.2010

## In Attendance

Aaron, Carissa, Dena, Rick, Bryan, and Christin

## Devotional

## Business Items

- Equity Line
  - Have meeting with the congregation to affirm how we will begin paying back our line of equity through a 20 year loan process as well as making sure the congregation understands the church's property ownership and why we took out a line of equity. Attempt to get postpone paying the principle this back until January 2011. We budgeted to pay back interest and pay extra into a separate account as "rainy day fund." No vote is needed from the congregation, but we feel it's important to inform the congregation about these happenings in the equity line and financial debt of the church.
  - Boiler
    - Budgeted boiler work was done about 2 weeks ago. Saturday after and the heat didn't work. Someone came out and fixed it. System is very fragile. 1st quote to replace was \$25,000 to replace half of it - the older boiler. 2nd quote was at \$12,000. Do we try to replace it now while we have the equity line? Bryan will get a 3rd quote.
- Congregational meeting date = Sunday, March 28th after worship
- Report
  - Carissa, Bryan, and Dena will work on putting together the report for National Covenant Properties

## Financial Update - Bryan

- We're currently in a great place right now.  
Ave. weekly giving of \$69.00 over our weekly giving offering budget for the year.  
Only one week since January that we've been under the \$2,500.00/week mark.  
Working on format for formal reports from the Treasurer. Working the the Quick Books system.  
Make sure we're giving to the denomination and conference quarterly and also that the Treasurer and Financial Secretary are aware of what monies we should be receiving.  
Megan Kissel will make a google.doc spreadsheet available regarding the finances for all Leadership Team to view.

## Membership Classes

- Pentecost Sunday, May 23 - Membership Sunday
  - April 18, 12:15 - 3:15 pm - Rick Elgendy
  - April 28, 7 - 10 pm - Christin McFadyen
  - May 8, 10 am - 1 pm - Carissa Esmon
- All Saints day, November 7, new format to try and see how it works
  - Sept 19, Sept 26, Oct 3, Oct 10
- New Format:
  - 4 Sundays for new members to attend
  - Not necessarily consecutive Sundays.
  - New members can miss one.
  - Go over different things at each one.
  - One hour sessions.
  - LT members take turns leading dicussion on the various items at each session.

## Out of Town wedding policy

Leadership team creates and approves the policies of the church. See policy below:

"As a church we are encouraged by those who are a part of our congregation that are committing to each other through marriage. Understanding that many of these couples may elect to have their weddings at locations that are

not close to Resurrection Covenant Church, the senior pastor may miss up to two (2) Sundays a year to officiate wedding ceremonies that require him or her to be out of town. These two Sundays are in addition to their previously agreed upon vacation Sundays. In the event that this limit has been met within a given year the Leadership Team may agree to an exception for special circumstances."

## Diversity at ResCov - discussion

Revisit the idea of Leadership Team going on a Sankofa trip or partnering with another church of a different dominant culture or race to do workshops on diversity and race relations (Invitation to Racial Righteousness). Is there something we could do with joining Bethel Iglesia? Are there other local churches that have homogeneous congregations and have worked through to try to become more diverse. Is there some way we can learn from them? Why do we want to be a racially diverse church? What about the other ways that we are not diverse? We need to look at every part of our lives and the way our church is to start thinking and working through these issues.

Discussion will be continued throughout the year.

## Ministry Updates

### Mission Team

- Benevolence Offering
  - Have 2 of these offerings a year go toward missions of the congregation. People of the church would then apply for a scholarship of sorts.
    - Does everyone who apply, receive money? - That is a process that needs to be figured out.
    - We'd ask for them to commit to share their story about their trip with the congregation.
    - Won't know how much is in the scholarship fund until the offerings are taken.
    - How do we decide who receives the money?
    - Do we support certain groups?
    - Should it be a benevolence offering or use undesignated funds for Mission team?
    - What do we do if we run out of the offering? Or making sure it's already there rather than having to take an offering?
    - Carissa will take these questions back to the Missions team to discuss and consider.
  - March 28th lunch, 12:30 pm - Missions Lunch open to the congregation at Carissa, Megan, and Lindsay's apartment. All are invited to attend and discuss missions

### Community Life - directory

Directory should be ready. Sarah Johnson sent the final version to Luke and Luke is making a PDF of the directory. Dena will follow up again with Luke.

### Christian Formation Intern

- Job description - Job description was available as a draft at the Annual Meeting. Need to refine the job description and start the application process. Rick, as liaison, will talk with the Christian Formation team to go over the job description.
- Start looking for people who would be interested in helping with VBS and other items.
- Leadership Team will put together a search committee, of 4 people: 2 Leadership team members (Rick and Aaron), and one or 2 members of the congregation.
  - Do we want the intern to be licensed in the Covenant Church?
  - Would like to have an intern in place by mid-May of this year.
  - Will start announcing and advertising by the end of the March.
  - Ministry Update via email before the meeting

### Update for Christian Formation - Rick

1. In the Way: We finished the Affirmations series on March 7 and are transitioning to the series on Ephesians. The Affirmations series was largely successful, in my judgement: the conversations were interesting and helpful, and we got a few new facilitators in the mix. We're still looking for more facilitators and more people to join in the planning. Suggestions or volunteers warmly welcome.

2. Table Talk: I know Aaron and Baxter might have things to say about this as well, but I think that all groups have met at least twice at this point. Speaking for my group, our time spent getting to know each other has been great, even if we've had irregular attendance: those present have been pretty willing to share about themselves. I know that the "curriculum" will include but not be limited to Ephesians on the subject of the Church.

3. Prayer Retreats: I haven't personally spoken with Bruce about it, but the anecdotes I've heard suggested that the first session was generally positive (if exhausting). Second session is scheduled for March 27.
4. The Formation team hasn't met since our last leadership team meeting.

### **Update for Community Life - Christin & Dena**

- Dena and Christin have been collaborating on how to get Community Life Team more organized, make sure people already involved in various ministries that fall under Community Life know that they are a part of the overall Community Life Ministry.
  - We've discussed which ministries fall under it and who is the "head" person of each. Shortly we'll be getting all the people involved for a discussion after church to touch base and get some feedback as to how people think their ministries are going, where they see gaps, etc.
- Sarah Robinson is eager to meet with the college students to discuss with them how they feel a part of our community, if they are getting what they want out of the community or are looking for other things.
- Like to get the Swap up and running again soon, and we may need to find a new point of contact in the next few months. Due to spring break and the second prayer retreat this month, it seems like a good idea to try and schedule the next swap for April.
- Coffee hour ministry: Beth Houwer has agreed to help facilitate coffee hour, but would like to have one other person for when she is out of town. Megan Kissel spoke with her about it.

If there are things that you all see as slipping through the cracks when it comes to community life, please let us know!

### **Update for the Building Team - Bryan**

1. We had Northtown come in and complete the various boiler/heating work which included fixing the heater by the front door, reconnecting a broken thermostat downstairs and fixing the damper. The next day the heat failed to come on in the sanctuary which meant an emergency visit and fix. It was not directly related to the previous work but the fragility of the system made me revisit the cost of replacing our boiler. The quote I got last year was for \$25,500 but I got another quote last week for \$12,000, which makes it more of a possibility. I will be getting a third quote since the first 2 are so far apart.
  2. The team is working on a spring work day, tentatively scheduled for April 10. Work will include outdoor clean up as well as a major effort to fix up the children's area, including paint, toy organization, etc. The day could also include working with Iglesia as well as doing some yard clean up for some of our neighbors.
  3. As I am sure you are all aware, TK finished the sanctuary and (in my opinion) it looks great.
- Questions? Ask Bryan.

### **Update from the Pastor - Aaron**

Holy Week is coming and we are partnering with Grace and Ravenswood again. Grace will host good Friday and Ravenswood Maunday Thursday services. I'm very excited because this year we (ResCov) are going to be doing an Easter Vigil on Saturday evening before Easter. It's a wonderful service that tells the story of God's acts of saving God's people. If you are planning to be in town, and would like to participate please let me know, we need ushers, greeters, readers, singers, and more!

Currently providing pre-marital counseling to 5 couples. Two of whom I will be officiating their wedding this summer. I am also working on helping to develop what the Table Talk groups will be studying.

I have been asked to give a presentation to John Wenrich's CORE team (team of revitalization advisors) on May 13, which will involve an overnight at Covenant Harbor in Lake Geneva.

With your blessing, I am planning on taking a few days off, including a Sunday, after Easter. Probably Sunday the 12th and Tuesday the 14th.

### **Update for the Mission Team - Carissa**

1. We are looking to identify long term missionaries that we might recommend to the congregation to support through our giving to the denomination. 40% of our already designated money that we give goes to mission support but we have the option of designating all or a portion of it to a particular long term missionary. Our hope in identifying a specific missionary or missionaries is to not only support them financially but to support them through prayer and possibly partner with them for a mission trip in the future.

2. Separate from the \$500 in the budget for missionary support we are planning to have two benevolence offerings throughout the year to specifically benefit those that attend ResCov and participate in global missions. People going on missions trips could apply for a scholarship from this fund and then would commit to sharing their experience with the congregation. Since we currently are not leading any trips but want to encourage our community to pursue global

missions we thought this would be a way to support their passions. Julia Styles has volunteered as well to join the Mission Team particularly around global missions.

3. Regarding the \$500 budgeted for missionary support we are interested in supporting Josh Swenson and his ministry. Megan is following up with him to have him speak with the mission team more about his ministry so we can make a more formal recommendation to the congregation that this is how we use this money. In addition I am going to talk with Bax about graduating seminarians from ResCov that might be going into the missionary field that we may have overlooked. If we identify others who are serving in this capacity we would like to open up this process.

4. Community Meal date changed to March 26 from March 19.