

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE
ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Minutes of meeting on Thursday, January 7, 2010

Present: Michael Bower Louise Butts, Neal Cox, Sarah DeGiovanni, Gail Hall, Bill Hoffman, Pat Howland, Laura Pawlich, Val Triblets, Lynn Webster, and Barry Wilcock

Absent: Dave Sageman

We opened the meeting held in Lynn's home with a prayer led by Barry. Bill asked if there had been any corrections to the previous minutes, and Sarah noted that she was not to contact Jonathan, but Amy Snow, from the Personnel committee to see if there was any feedback Jonathan had provided prior to his departure. Sarah reported that the Personnel committee did not deal with the minister. In light of this, it was suggested to that before the next meeting, Sarah contact Bob from the Deacons, or Ruth from the Council. Bill also reported that he spoke to Ineke about how we'd interpreted the **Covenant around the Pastoral Search Process**. In light of this conversation, he will sign it and send it.

We reported as a group our responses in completing the Leadership Expectations from the Church Profile. Louise will tally the results and share them with the committee by the next meeting.

We then discussed logistics of the librarian's job, and ways to communicate about the Search Committee's efforts to the church community. The librarian will put copies of meeting minutes on the church website, along with any reference materials like a blank profile and the flow charts, as long as they are not confidential. We will put the poster provided by Ineke on an easel in Chapin Hall after we have adhered it to something as "backing," and will put reference materials nearby. We will continue with monthly communication in the "Churchmouse", and will have a notation put in the weekly bulletin directing anyone with Search Committee questions to any of us sporting the green Search Committee nametag. We will try to locate the former O&A Committee's box, and convert it into a "questions" box for the Search Committee. Near the end of each Search Committee meeting, we will discuss what Laura should provide to Carol for the "Churchmouse" deadlines. A binder will be kept with these entries in it. Bill, as chair, will submit something for the annual report. Bill will also look into printing out a larger copy of the profile. Barry said we could also keep an open list of questions received, and put it on the table next to the easel in Chapin Hall. Val will keep a master list of the questions received, and how we answer them at our meetings. Gail will send Val an e-copy of something like this from O&A. Gail said she had a more detailed copy of the 2009 Visioning responses, and if Carol has it on her computer, this could also get put on the website. We should check with the Council as to whether they feel it is acceptable to have Visioning info on the website. Bill would like Dave, as secretary to maintain a list of questions for the Council, and include this one on the list.

Laura mentioned the survey she found on the UCC website, and how this might be a useful in getting input from the church, if we distributed copies via email, and had hard copies at church. We thought this would be one way we could get input from the younger folks of our church. In this same vein, Val said it'd be good if we could solicit info directly from the youth, and she agreed to approach CE about this. She will bring copies of the survey to our next meeting.

Bill said that he will be part of a committee that will be evaluating staffing for the church, which may have relevance to our committee's efforts.

We reviewed that our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 21, 2010, and will be held at Lynn's house again, starting at 7:00pm. For now, we will communicate with one another by email, but Gail will do a little research into whether or not it'd be feasible to set up our own website.

Action Items:

- Everyone is to familiarize themselves with the Profile, as we will begin to complete it together at our next meeting.
- Louise will tally the results of our completing the "Leadership Expectations."
- Sarah will contact Bob and/or Ruth to see if there was any helpful info from Jonathan before he left.
- Set up an easel and table for Search Committee materials in Chapin Hall.
- Find the O&A box, and convert it into a Search Committee "question box"
- Dave to keep list of questions for the Council.
- Laura will bring UCC survey to our next meeting

We closed the meeting with a prayer led by Barry.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah DeGiovanni