

Copies to: Pastor Josh Andrews (e), Carol Blass (e), Sally Leidy (e), Clarissa Frail (e), Stephanie Steinke (e), Kristen Davis (e) Emily Sharp (e), Dale Brookman (e), Bruce Hodges (e), Missy Keller (e), Dean Casperson (e) Judy Steigleder (e), Secretary, Heather Long, Spencerville Office Manager

Leadership Team Meeting

July 13, 2020

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pastor Josh Andrews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stephanie Steinke	<input type="checkbox"/> Missy Keller
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carol Blass – Team Leader	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristen Davis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bruce Hodges
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sally Leidy	<input type="checkbox"/> Emily Sharp	<input type="checkbox"/> Dean Casperson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clarissa Frail	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Brookman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judy Steigleder

District Superintendent Barry Burns

The meeting was called to prayer by Pastor Josh.

Because of Westside's financial challenge of receiving gifts of 50% below budget, Pastor Josh Andrews invited our DS Barry Burns to share the district and conference perspective of Westside's options. Knowing the attendance continues to decline, we the Leadership Team, is looking at all the options of what we can do for the future.

Barry Burns stated that we are not alone as far as finances, however our situation is complicated with the old and large mortgage on the building. The best scenario would be to come up with a plan that touches the members and everybody increasing their giving and is able to close that gap between the needs and the income. Rev. Burns said he would begin the process of preparing a district grant to assist us in the short term.

Options presented were:

1. Realignment of percentages between the two churches. Same charge re-appointing Pastor Josh and bring in a less than full-time elder or a Local Licensed Pastor
2. Realignment of a larger charge with Westside
3. Pair Trinity with another church. Westside stand alone elder with less than full time local pastor or retired elder at one-half or one-quarter time. Retired pastor would not need pension or benefits.
4. Sell building and move into right size building for membership.
5. Worst case scenario – doing nothing and when funds are gone, close the church.

Carol Blass went on record saying the district and conference has been generous with us and we have certainly benefited by the receiving of several grants. She further stated that she had a bit of a problem of Westside working a program that we will be asking the district to grant us even more.

Barry responded in part by saying that part of the apportionment money is used to help small congregations. We all have a responsibility in being good stewards.

There followed further discussions and questions.

Barry suggested that if we could find that partnership where a congregation would share your property that might be the relief we would need to be able to do the kind of outreach we need to do in this community. He stated he would be willing to look into this.

After discussion, Barry stated he would start processing grant money and we can begin talking and praying among ourselves.

There being no further questions or comments, Pastor Josh closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Steigleder

Secretary

(emailed 7-20-2020)