

Leadership Team Meeting
St. John's UCC Newport, Ky
April 12, 2025

PRESENT: Kyle Taylor-President, Dave Stamm-Vice President, Pat Goins-Secretary, Vickie Kennedy-Treasurer, Laura Haas-Past President, Pastor Marty Westermeyer-Pastor

The meeting began at 11:15 am with a prayer by Vickie.

Kyle went over last month's minutes that were sent to members previously. There was no discussion. Vickie made a motion to accept the minutes and Dave seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Kyle read a Thank You card from John Robson for the gift card we gave him.

TREASURER'S REPORT-Vickie said we have major expenses coming. The fire inspection is coming soon. From April 6-12th we had \$3045 in offerings. We pulled \$50,000 from investments and lost \$50,000. AT the recent investment meeting, Dave Coppage said to hold steady for now.

Kyle announced that after completing all the paperwork, our insurance has increased from \$300,000 to \$1,000,000. This covers everything, the building, staff, liabilities, etc.

PASTOR'S REPORT-Pastor Marty attended Andrew Bierken's funeral. Pastor Marty received a certificate for attending a Church Safety & Security workshop. We are accepting three new members into church tomorrow-Judy Adams, Janice Keeney, and Wendy Bauer. Vickie made a motion to accept the report and Kyle seconded it.

PERSONNEL POLICIES-Kyle announced the personnel policies are complete and we will discuss them next month.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS CELEBRATION-We are about \$5000 away from our goal of \$25,000. Ideas for a church celebration were discussed like getting a speaker, doing karaoke, doing something other than just a meal. Nothing was decided and will continue to be discussed at future meetings.

INTERN SEARCH-Pastor Marty has sent emails to several seminaries but only one has responded so far. Apparently, there is a lot of paperwork involved with questions about our church and what we are searching for, and then they will accept us to apply for an intern. Pastor Marty will follow up with them.

EASTER BREAKFAST-Everyone knows what they are bringing which was decided at the last meeting and there were no changes.

NEW BUSINESS-

TRENT MONTESSORI

-Trent Montessori wants to use the two parking spaces next to the turf on the Nelson Place side of the church.

-Trent also wants to use the courtyard you can see outside the church office for a flower garden. It was suggested by Laura that they can also use the shed which is now empty. There was discussion. Laura made a motion to accept these proposals and Dave seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

DOBIN'S WEDDING RECEPTION- Discussion re:whether or not the church should pay for the reception. Kyle was concerned that it would set a precedent and we would then need to be fair by paying for any other staff and/or member's reception who would get married. It was discussed that this wouldn't be an issue at this time, and the reception was going to be very simple, just cake and punch. Kyle also mentioned we will be having a reception for Dobin the end of June when he will be leaving us and moving to San Antonio, Texas. Laura made a motion that we pay for Dobin's wedding

reception and Dave seconded it. The motion passed with four in favor and one opposed. No further discussion.

DOBIN'S GOING AWAY GIFT-It was discussed what we should gift Dobin a going away present from the congregation. It was suggested it should be something with St. John's on it with perhaps a picture of the church or sanctuary. It was decided to table this for now and we will bring ideas to next month's meeting.

DOBIN'S POSITION-Since Dobin has resigned and will be leaving the end of June, his position needs to be filled. Dobin said he would help find someone before he leaves. Dave said he has already talked to Michael Sullivan about being on the Personnel Committee for now. There was much discussion about how this position should be filled, what the salary should include and where to search for candidates. Pat made a motion to let Dobin, Michael and the Personnel committee find a replacement then bring it to the Leadership Team for approval. Dave seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

UPCOMING EVENTS-

-Mother's Day-will give all women flowers.

-Graduation-will give an Amazon gift card and a booklet.

-Father's Day-unsure at this time.

-Cookies and lemonade outside like we did last summer. Will do this July 20, 2025 and August 17, 2025.

-COOKIES FOR FIREFIGHTERS-will do this on 9/11 and include the police in the city of Newport. Marty will send a note to other UCC churches in the area telling them we are doing this and asking if they want to do the same for their cities. May get the Lunch Bunch involved in bringing cookies and packaging them. Pat will talk to Carol Thompson about this.

-COMMUNITY SERVICE-Laura checked with Tracy Barber, since she and Julie Twehues were working on this. She said they had talked about doing a care closet and/or a back to school drive for Newport Schools. Kyle mentioned

Newport Schools have a lot of support, but it was mentioned that so does Washington UCC which we donated school supplies to last year. Laura will give this back to Tracy to explore.

-RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE-Kyle said their volunteer opportunities have changed to include the whole house if we were to do something like care packages or food baskets and this would be more than we could provide.

-HENRY HOSEA HOUSE-Pat reported she was in contact with Henry Hosea House in Newport re:setting up a regular schedule for our church to serve dinner there. They have so many regulars and no spots available at this time, but they do need help on Friday May 30, 2025. They would need 7 volunteers from 3:30-6PM to serve on the food line. Pastor Marty will announce this in church tomorrow and Pat will write something to put in Constant Contact and the church bulletin.

-FOOD PANTRY-Pat suggested we add toiletries and cleaning supplies to our food pantry. Laura will talk to John Robson to see if he would be okay with this.

-COMMUNITY YARD SALE-scheduled July 12th and 13th. We may just give out water bottles and open the church for people to use the bathrooms. Laura said she can help with this.

No further business and the meeting was adjourned at 1PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Goins

Secretary