

Southern Ohio Kentucky District Church of the Brethren

Board meeting May 7, 2022

Present at the zoom meeting:

Nick Beam, Todd Reish, Mary Boone, Ty Pyles, Sie Brock, Vicki Ullery, Staci Peterson, Tom Bowser, Sarah Friedrich, Kirstin, Harvey, Mike Yingst, Carrie Drees, Jill Schweitzer, Sarah Friedrich, Dottie Woodward, Ron Mack, 9378460880, Karen Dillon, Becky Maurer, Scott Fitzgerald

Guest: Stan Dueck

Our prayers go out to the family of Gene Kraus of Covington Church of the Brethren.

We also are keeping Fred Circle in our prayers.

Todd Reish opened our meeting with the John 13 text tells the disciples to love one another with the command to love as Jesus loves.

Welcome to Stan Dueck who will be assisting the board.

Staff Reports:

Mary Boone:

Mary's report was posted on the website for us. She has been working on the website and hopes that it is easier to find information. However, it is still a struggle to receive registration and accepting monetary gifts. She is beginning to work on the Together issue for fall.

Karen Dillon:

- Camping and Retreat Ministry meets monthly. They baked over 4K Easter cookies and sold almost all of them. They had just over \$1600 in profits.
- They had Spring Fling the followings 2 weekends. They had everything set and ready to go for the Jr. and Sr. High students but no one was able to attend. The following weekend they had 4 elementary aged students.
- They are hoping to have Winter Blast next year. They are NOT receiving registrations for summer camps as of this meeting.

Scott Fitzgerald, Treasurer

- Scott emailed the report to board members since it was not on the website. The first quarter congregational giving is down by 80% and gifts from individuals is down 60%. Expenses are down slightly compared to last year. Our investments are suffering in the stock market yet still slightly above where we were last year at this time.

Nick Beam, Interim Executive Director:

Nick reported that he has done the following since our meeting in March:

- 12 Zoom meetings;

- 10 in person meetings
- attended the book study at Troy
- still doing the weekly Wednesday meetings through the middle of June then taking a summer break
- He spent 4 days in Elgin for District Executives meeting; led a congregation in the beginning a search for a new pastor; met with the Directors of Communications in the districts at Bethany. Nick is looking forward to the visioning process.

Nick and Mary would like to be included in all the congregational mailing lists to get an understanding of what is happening in the individual congregations. Nick will be out of the office for a week. His family is moving from Pleasant Hill to Greenville.

Motion to accept all reports was made by Tom Bowser and second by Sie Brock.

Visioning for the Southern Ohio Kentucky District of the Church of the Brethren discussion introduction with Stan Dueck leading.

Road Map to the process involves:

Discover, Realignment, Innovate, Validate, Evolve

The suggestion is for a small team/advisory group who represent the district to work at the organization of the work. Stan needs to know if he is to work as an advisor or a consultant. The first step would be for the team to identify the 7 people to work with Stan to direct the process. They would meet with him on a monthly basis. As soon as the team is in place the process begins.

The board moved into small discussion groups to explore the aspirations of the visioning process and defining the stakeholders.

sdueck@brethren.org is the email for Stan Dueck

The recommendation of the Board is that we call Stan to work with us as an advisor in the visioning process. Money for this will need to be a part of the budget next year.

Nick will be on the team. Sarah Friedrich and Staci Peterson volunteered to be on the team. A few names were suggested. Mary agreed to put a request for volunteers in the weekly and monthly communications. Todd will put together a definition of the process.

Old Business:

- There is no new information about the Stoney Creek and Bear Creek churches.
 - West Alexander Congregation met with Nick and Todd in March. They have selected a local pastor without going through the district for the selection of a pastor. Nick will be contacting them again to determine the status of them leaving the denomination.
- Racial Justice Query will be presented by Todd to the Standing Committee.

- Commission Reports:
 - Shared Ministries: has not met
 - Connections/Communications met a few weeks ago and discussed ways to improve communication within the district (Karen Garrett, Fred Circle, Mary Boone and Nick)

 - Resource Development: the fund raising subcommittee is working on a few things for the summer. Looking to get grant recipients to tell the stories about how it was used. Talked about the Generosity Project. The Good News project: a list of congregations to board members to connect with to find out the news of what 2 congregations and to share what the district is doing.

 - Ministry Commission: Nick updated on ministers needed in a few congregations. Nick also suggested Nancy Heisman doing a training in the fall.

 - Shared Ministries: Dottie agreed to chair. Nick informed them of the primary tasks of the group: Congregations in congregational vitality survey; Social Justice committee update was given. Todd updated the board on the Racial Justice Book Study. About 20 people participated.

 - Discernment Commission needs names to fill multiple positions. Please make suggestions to the team so they can put together a slate.

The next meeting will be July 16 and the goal is to meet in person.

Submitted for review by

PJ Arndts, clerk