Sixth Avenue UCC - Leadership Team

June 14, 2017, 6 p.m.

Present: Chris Gilmore, Ann Stoenner (taking minutes), Vickie Golobic, Carol Fields, Sandy Calkins, and Brian LeMaire (delayed arrival from work 7:40 PM).

Treasurer’s Report – Sandy: We’re doing OK: no remarkable unexpected expenses, pledges to date are above budget. Balance sheets and budget performance sheets handed around. Vickie requests publication of brief moderator’s update quarterly. The WHI $2500 from donations could be used for WHI-related expenses such as higher water bills, paper products, laundry. We have $600 in memorial funds to remember Annabel Clarke, intended for plants along north side of building. The King Soopers debit card project income is below budget and needs to be mentioned in announcements.

Wider Church --

Women’s Homelessness Initiative (WHI) – Vickie said that Elisabeth wants discussion of new site manager/coordinator as she is stepping back with baby on the way. Lauren will be more active but weekends are somewhat difficult for her. Vickie will also be more active. Several other churches are volunteering for tasks. Jeff, Rachel and Jessica and several new people have worked on setup. Cleanup has been great, and Taylor’s custodianship has been appreciated.

Denver Inner City Parish lunch cook Allison is retiring; new person Evelyn in two weeks.

Inner Church --

Chairmanship for inner church is vacant. A three-month stint is a suggestion being considered. Chris has a few people he wants to talk with about serving a shorter term.

Fellowship – the signup sheets need checking, as always.

Nursery -- we need someone to spearhead planning and gathering ideas: where do parents of babies want a nursery to be located, what equipment and supplies, storage space for 1-2 cribs, et cetera. We will need to hire a nursery worker eventually with babies expected.

Kim Shinabery is stepping down as Sunday school teacher; she’ll stay through June and maybe July if needed. Chris hasn’t found anyone he wants to hire yet -- chief qualification is loving church and children. Suggestions offered by those present.

A Confirmation class for 1-4 youth is a possibility soon.

The memorial/funeral checklist is a continuing document as people think of things to add, available in office.

Building --

Carol spoke with handyman Juan Rodriguez (recommended by friend of Ann’s); he has a full time job but can work on weekends or evenings; he and his wife have a window-cleaning business also. He usually charges by the hour $35-$45 but is agreeable to 3-4 hours on one Saturday a month for $150/monthly set amount. Suggestion to make list of repairs needed, meet with Juan and try him one Saturday. Taylor is here Saturdays and can oversee. Carol will schedule a meeting.

We will get three trees from City at no cost; English oak and honey locust recommended. Flags have been placed in the yard locations.

Carol led a walkaround outside to look at the wheelchair ramp and stained glass windows, and explained conversations she and Larry have had with vendors. Larry Crabbe talked to AmRamp who bid $1000 for extension of railings and repairing rusted/damaged areas on ramp; it was suggested that Juan Rodriguez be asked whether he can do these repairs. Carol talked with Watkins Stained Glass Studio about repairs to stained glass windows and replacement of yellowed Lexan coverings; Jane Watkins of that family-owned company said that our windows are likely ones that their company made, and they are interested in seeing them.

Historic grant funding might be available for building repairs -- deadlines are October 1 and April 1; the particular grant to fix stained glass windows is only available October 1.

The next Work Day was set for August 26th.

Pastor’s report --

Chris reviewed the summer schedule:

Pridefest June 18th -- 10 people plan to march. Washington Park UCC will worship at Sixth Avenue and Rev. Nancy Rosas will preach. Chris is organizing Pride marchers in Cheesman Park but will launch them and come back to help lead worship.

Next Sunday Chris starts a 4-week sermon series on Jesus Said What?

The UCC joint summer service will be at Parkview UCC end of July.

Chris will attend General Synod in Baltimore July 2, and take the middle two weeks in August for vacation (hiking in Alaska).

Several people are interested in joining the church.

Pax Christi lost their biggest benefactor and is down to 9 people. They are considering changing their schedule; if they give up Saturdays we could have more weddings.

The Rocky Mountain Conference UCC Annual meeting was last week. Topics: looking at different giving patterns, pledging not a typical habit for younger people so churches need to think about new approaches. New members who miss the annual pledge drive should be given information about pledging. Good churches do talk about money.

A Leadership brainstorming session was set for Sunday, August 6, 12-2:30 (with lunch) to talk about goals, personnel, church retreat.

Chris wants to apply for “Ignite” retreat for rejuvenating ministry. We will be reaching a benchmark of 3 years for Chris’ ministry. The search committee’s church profile was the basis of his mission these three years. It’s important to not get stagnant, keep things engaging, and have active intentional goals, building from strength rather than waiting for crisis. Some aspects of business are a useful approach to accomplishing the mission of church.

Chris had a good meeting with pastoral relations committee last week.

In response to a question about personnel and the use of his time, Chris said he wants an educator more than he wants an assistant.

Adjourn.