

MUMC Connectionalism Strategy Team

04/20/2022

In Person: Andy Bryan, Becky Strickland, Linda Horodeski, Barb Stevens

Zoom: Will Koehl, Jim Lange, Mary Beth Harper, Roxanne Miller, Ethan Massey

Absent: Dick Vreeland

Andy – Began with prayer

Shared that the Leadership Board approved the Strategic Plan and the goals that the Connectionalism group developed.

Board and Congregation feedback about new Strategic Plan: Described the process of review by the Board. Andy shared questions raised about reducing number of fundraisers across the church; questions from congregation members asking about inclusion of further goals; engagement building; question of what does “best in class digital presence” mean.

Andy – focus on Goal #1 – clarify mission, vision, and values statements by Task force with Board. Talk about “sufficiency” – get baseline of congregation awareness of those statements by developing a survey.

Survey Discussion:

Barb – consider order of questions as people invest more in beginning of a survey than at the end. Remove #1 because #2 seems cover same. Address sequencing of the questions overall.

Ethan – remove/combine some options on #1

Jim – reflections on how present the survey to the congregation and suggested come from clergy. Described software to gather live feedback. Andy said previously used “Mentee”, etc as interactive way to gather information – different live and interactive approach. Concern about inclusiveness with use of technology.

Ethan – consider how and when disseminate the survey re time of year and attendance.

Will – consider differences in moderator influence

Andy – clarify how the survey is framed to congregation and how to engage as many as possible

Barb – “sell” the survey ahead of time to prepare engagement

Roxanne – ensure tell people the variety of ways to complete the survey; welcome/committee circle electronic version in person. Pointed out current posting of Mission and Vision on MUMC website is not clear what is what. Also suggested that the current statements are too long/wordy and difficult to remember. Encouraged simple, shorter, clear.

Andy, Becky and Ethan will review survey draft.

Andy will talk with Chair of Leadership Board about establishing Task Force to clarify statements.

7:30 5/18 next meeting, try to keep pattern of 3rd Wed of the month for regular meetings