**Ministries Council**

**February 10, 2020 Minutes**

*Collegiate United Methodist Church & Wesley Foundation is an inclusive community that invites all people to experience God’s unconditional love, grow in faith and serve others.*

Devotion: Brenda Allen

Lori Schippers was welcomed as the new chair of Congregational Care

Check In: Which was your favorite birthday and why?

**Endowment Board Presentation—Jane Jacobson**

* Collegiate Wesley Endowment Grants are made available each year to support new or existing ministries/programs or capital expenditures. Purpose of the grants is to help CW achieve its goal to invite, grow, experience and serve. The amount of money available for grants is 5% of the average year end balance of the fund for the previous five years. CW members are encouraged to donate to the fund or consider it for planned gifts.
* Since early December, articles have appeared in the Collegiate UMC/Wesley Foundation Announcements to highlight recent projects/programs receiving support from the Endowment Fund and to encourage church members to consider applying for a grant.
* As each grant application requires a CW sponsor, those with an idea need to first share it with a committee, cluster or staff person. A grant application for a capital expenditure needs sponsorship by the trustees. In addition to a brief idea description, grant applications need to include a projected budget. **Applications are submitted online are due by March 31,2020**.
* Cluster/committees are encouraged to start thinking in the fall about how endowment funds might be used. Endowment funding can be a kick off for programming that eventually becomes part of the church budget.

**Cluster Celebrations and Updates**

* Christian Education: MaeAnn Unser will serve as co-chair. Kayla Williams is also a new cluster member. MaeAnn Unser, Barb Peterson and Lindsay Drake are working to develop an adult education team. The cluster is also discussing ideas for endowment funds in support of confirmation camp or for Bible school if budget funds are insufficient.
* Worship: First meeting of the year will be March 5. Cluster celebrates the Decorating Advent-ure team for their Advent, Christmas and Epiphany decorating. There was great feedback from those in worship. Cluster is still working with the Faith Perceptions Report and considering future music/worship staff needs.
* Reaching and Receiving: Cluster is fine-tuning the projects/events that will take place in the coming year. Two new cluster members took part in the recent leadership workshop.
* Sending to Serve: The February Hands-On Mission Activity is the making of blessing bags containing necessary personal items for the homeless. Items for the bags are being collected every Sunday in February and CW members will assemble the bags on February 23.
* Congregational Care: Goal is for the cluster to meet every other month. CW Stephen Ministry is partnering with Ames Catholic Community Stephen Ministry. Under this partnership, CW members are able to complete the required Stephen Ministry training as well as receive ongoing continuing education. The group meets twice a month to talk about care/receiver relationship and for social time.

**Finance**

* To assist clusters/committees keep track of their budgets throughout the year, requests for reimbursements need to be made in a timely manner: *within 60 days and/or quarterly*. A policy on reimbursements/posting journals will be helpful.

**Communications**

* In order to streamline and improve the effectiveness of communication to CW members, anyone with a message for the congregation needs to first contact the appropriate cluster chair or staff person and not go to Janelle first. It will then be decided which is the best vehicle for the message (website, Communicator, weekly announcements, bulletin) as well as when and for how long the message will be delivered.

**Discipleship Pathways**

* Clusters and their relationship to Discipleship Pathways:

*Invite:* Reaching and Receiving

*Experience:* Worship and Congregational Care

*Grow:* Education

*Serve:* Sending to Serve

Closing Prayer

**Future Meeting Dates:** Monday, April 13, 2020, Monday June 8, 2020

* April: Mary Lynn will lead devotion

Ministries Council Membership

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