Concord Trinity United Methodist Church Leadership Council Meeting Minutes October 14, 2024

Our Mission: Making new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision: Connecting people in the community to Christ and to each other.

<u>Council Members Attending</u>: Glenn Kvidahl, Kurt Oakes, Leslie Weiss, Jami Jackson, Pastor David Stewart, Dave Genthon, Di Nichols, Gale Preston, Scott Lloyd

Guests Attending- Grace Seymour, Tom Bellavia Members not in Attendance: Parker Givens

Visioning

- Values Team report
 - Phase 1- Identify individual values of CT membership
 - Phase 2- Identify key priorities of CT vision, mission and strategy.
 - Phase 3- Compare and identify patterns between phase 1&2 to identify the core values of the church.

Concord Trinity Values Team introductory meeting September 23, 2024

Values are what we hold most dear and are our fundamental driving force. When our values are clear, they are the compass that aligns our decisions and actions to live out our purpose.

In organizations, diversity is not a goal or a value but the by-product of aligned values. When an organization's values align with the organization's strategy and the values of belonging members, it naturally results in diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Why are values important?

Values are principles of evaluation, or ends to pursue. They determine whether a perceiver views something as good or bad or important.

Why do we need value alignment in the church?

People look for meaning in what they participate in. If they can't find it in one place, they'll find it in another. It is easy to make the mistake of pursuing diversity of values, but this results in diversity of ends, with people aiming towards different directions. Common values are a must so that the influence of individual forces can aim at a shared direction.

What values are not:

- Values are not beliefs, social commonalities, leisure pursuits or interpersonal styles.
 People often mistake shared interests for shared values.
- Values are not magic. Leaders often assume that if values are continually recited, people will be inspired to action. This is a big mistake.
- Values are not to be pushed or imposed. People feel robbed of their agency and become cynical. Without buy-in or commitment, people leave.

How to distinguish what our values are:

- Values bring our 'why' to life. The disconnect between 'proclaimed' values and 'behavioral' values lead to distrust.
- Values must cost us something. If it doesn't, it's not worth pursuing. Values are not just
 nice; they hurt from time to time. If they are nice, they aren't true values, because values
 will lead to tough choices and decisions and make us feel uncomfortable sometimes.
- Values are not buzzwords; they must drive action. Values are discerned by looking at what drives our actions.
- Values should drive every aspect of the church (hiring, digital strategies, building management, policies, decision making, ministry, budgeting, capital campaign, partnerships) because they bring our 'why' to life.

The church is not a group of people with a common background, common characteristics, shared interests, or even shared beliefs. The church is a community of people with a common set of values, a common purpose.

Team overview

Members: Leslie W, Cherie B, Alex M, Chad V, Grace S, Pastor David S.

Purpose: Assess current organizational values, identify what drives the church's actions and decisions, and discern the core values of Concord Trinity so that they are in alignment with the church's vision and mission

Process

Phase 1 - Identify the individual values of Concord Trinity members

This data is collected through interviews, surveys and group discussions.

Phase 2 - Identifying key priorities of Concord Trinity's purpose, vision, mission and strategy
This data is arrived at through reflection, questioning, and evaluation of church culture
Phase 3 - Discerning patterns between the two phases to identify core values of the church

The data from phase 1 and phase 2 is studied, compared and combined

This process may take up to a year.

Goal: The team will present its findings to the Church Leadership Council and articulate what the organization's core values are. There are to be no less than 3 but no more than 5 core values.

• Cell Tower Proposal

- o Interest by AT&T to place a cell tower toward the back of CT property. It is a potential revenue generator for CT. The site visit went well. A non-binding document of interest was signed.
- Typically, there is an 80 year lease that is renewed every 5 years.
- The tower that approximately takes a 50 x 50 footprint will be owned by AT&T.

• Chreia Project Breakfast

o A success. \$800 was raised thanks to the generosity of our guests. The team worked great together to put on the event.

Pastor David's Report

- Children's Sunday Worship is up and running. Youth Ministry has had a successful relaunch and the pumpkins are selling thru 10.31.24, please support our CTYouth Pumpkin Patch!
- o Information about UMCOR Hurricane Relief has been sent out.
- $\circ\hspace{0.4cm}$ Work has started on the Security Cameras and signage discussed at the last CLC meeting.

Finance

- Giving is close to what it was last year while budgeted expenses are down compared to last year. Expenses exceed Giving
 at this point due to the unexpected expenses discussed at the last CLC meeting.
- We expect that the savings on salaries will help to balance the budget by the end of the year.

• Executive Session

- Communicate Out:
 - O A discussion is in place to relocate the audio/visual area to improve the quality of the experience for the user.
 - The Pancake breakfast was a success.
 - $\circ\hspace{0.4cm}$ The church is making an offer to fill the open Director of Finance position.
- Closing prayer: Glenn

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, 11/11/24 @ 6:30PM Nov. Open Devotional- Glenn Nov. Closing Prayer- Dave