2.3.22

Coordinating circle minutes

The Zoom meeting began at 1:00 pm. In attendance were Sara Bauer, Jane Harper, Stephanie Samson, Erin Fitzgerald, Linder Moulder, Kathryn Alexander, Joyce Robinson, Phyllis Thayer, Marie Bjork and Lannie Macandrea.

Sara read the CC covenant which was followed by check-in. The January minutes were approved and there were no announcements. The next meeting will be on March 2, at 1:00pm. The agenda for this meeting was approved.

Kathryn presented a Leadership moment on “Mental Models”, which is the fourth system level on the Ladder of Inference.

**Circle updates**:

Kathryn said the Healthy Community group is still looking into the “Difficult Conversation” training and more information will be forthcoming.

Phyllis reported that membership is now up to 88, pending GC approval for three who most recently joined. The committee will be calling all members to verify contact information soon.

Erin shared a list of Communication team tasks and noted which had been resolved and which were future projects. A suggestion was made that the membership directory contain photos of members, as this is helpful in identifying members and helping with connections.

Marie announced the Soul Weaving group has scheduled a mini retreat in February for refection and evaluation. She said the team is feeling very positive and very pleased with the addition of Crystal.

Stephanie (UU connections) reported that delegates to the GA conference will prepare for their participation with a written guide of expectations and protocol. Phyllis will provide a document from her previous church which covers this. The Regional conference is coming up, with several attendees.

Lannie reported that Social Justice is partnering with SCAR and that she recently attended a board meeting.

Joyce said that Pastoral Care is still looking for new members.

Linda updated us on the Governing Circle. She, Phyllis, and Stephanie are on a liaison team with three Westminster members. She mentioned the possibility of coordinating with Westminster on social justice issues.

Linda updated the planning session details. Libby and Elizabeth are planning this for 2.27. at 3 pm. Covid will determine whether it is in person or a Zoom event. There are three goals for this meeting:

1. Review congregational goals and select which to prioritize.
2. Review the annual calenda for the upcoming year.
3. Review Dynamic Governance and seek input.

We need to assess and measure our progress and discussed how we do that. Each circle will need to evaluate how their aims are measured.

The attendance at the two town hall meetings was disappointing, but the input was very good. Linda will be creating a spread sheet with results. The goal most important to members was the hiring of a parttime minister. There was a lot of interest in working with other nonprofits and creation of a family/youth ministry. There was mostly positive feedback regarding the Mission and Vision statements. It was decided that there should be some gentle editing before it is presented to the congregation forapproval, possibly by the group originally tasked with creating the mission statement.

Erin shared that a two-pronged approach to measuring success was useful, i.e., measuring the outcome, but also the process used to reach the outcome. This is more subjective, broader and can lead to more creative insights.

Concern was expressed about the importance of avoiding white supremacy culture while assessing and measuring.

The Circle data sheet for the CC was discussed. Changes were proposed at the January meeting and will be discussed further at the March meeting.

There was a reminder to add meetings to the church calendar and to remember to create a logbook for each circle and to keep it updated.

We discussed who was the designated “church spokesperson” when talking to media or others. This is generally the Board president, and it was suggested that the GC create process for announcements and the like and designate a person to be the voice of the church.

The meeting was adjourned after a closing round.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Harper