

## **PNMC Board Conference Call Minutes Thursday, April 4, 2019**

6:00 pm Alaska Time; 7:00 pm Pacific Time; 8:00 pm Mountain Time

Present: Dave Hockman-Wert, Jeryl Hollinger, Jenna Schlegal-Preheim, Jack Swaim, Dianna Eshleman, Jan Yoder, Nellie Moran-Ascencio, Janet Szabo, Katherine Jameson Pitts, Barb Buxman, Kathleen Aeschliman, Twila Lehman

Absent: Gary Martin

Jeryl opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:05.

### **Reports:**

#### **1. Executive Conference Minister** *(Katherine Jameson Pitts)*

Salem Mennonite has called Jerrell Williams (wife Sierra) to begin in June. They are from Pittsburgh Mennonite. Menno has called Bryce Miller and Emily Toews (co-pastors) to begin in August. They are from Winnipeg, Canada. Filer has decided to keep Ron Hershey as a part-time pastor for the next year and will then re-evaluate.

Healthy Congregational Grants have been granted to Bethel for translation and materials for their sewing group. To Corvallis/Albany/Lebanon Mennonite to bring Ted and Company to present the "Doctrine of Discovery" performance. To EBAFOM for their Education Program.

The Pastoral Leadership Team is continuing to work on policy for pastors and congregations regarding the performing of same sex marriages. Questions continue to arise as the policy gets implemented. "Does a pastor/congregation get reviewed each time or just once?" "What does forbearance look like?" Katherine will continue to work on this with the PLT.

A person has expressed interest in starting a church plant in Bend, OR. This church would be "open and inclusive to LBGTO persons." This person is no longer a part of the Bend Mennonite Church and would like to plant a Mennonite church that would affiliate with Mountain States instead of PNMC. Katherine will keep us updated.

#### **2. Sustainability Fund Policy** *(Dave Hockman Wert)*

Access it at:

["https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OqThLURiYtzcFC44yivz5nVLovCRymMJvuYcXehsKil/edit?usp=sharing"](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OqThLURiYtzcFC44yivz5nVLovCRymMJvuYcXehsKil/edit?usp=sharing)=sharing

Dave and the Finance group brought this policy for board discussion. The Board thanked them for their work on this and overall thought is was very good. A few questions/thoughts were generated. Should the opening paragraph add the long-term visioning component of the Fund and should we encourage people to "add" to the fund through wills, estate planning, or other ways? Also, wondered if there should be wording to include Board approval or consultation with the moderator, ECM, or finance group before any action is taken. Questioned the word "and" in #3.

It was suggested that Dave share the policy with Everence for their review/comments.

### **3. Posting financial information online**

Should we post the 2018 year-end report online? Our 2019 budget online?  
This would be a new practice. Up until now these have only been provided in our delegate booklets. Reason would be transparency. We have the option of using the password protected part of the website.

The board did not have any reservations about posting online in the password protected area, but it was also suggested to give a summary in the open site.

### **4. Congregational giving guidelines – Tabled until May meeting.**

Is this an area in which we could benefit from delegate discussion and feedback?  
Katherine notes this matter seems to come up in cycles: in 1998 at the Annual Meeting there was a conversation about giving per member to PNMC and \$58/member/year was the number offered. That would be \$89 today. In 2006 at the Annual Meeting it was noted that congregations were invited to give 6% of their budget to PNMC.

Next meeting: Friday and Saturday, May 24-25, 2019, in Portland

Meeting concluded 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by Twila Lehman, Secretary