

## Communications Committee Meeting Notes

Sept. 23, 2020

Present: Alvis Koedam, Kay Simmons, Amy Haskins, Kirsten Alworth, Ann Nelson, members; Sara McCormack, board liaison; Rick Blum, Eric Holmer, Sarah Iverson, staff

1. Sara McCormack welcomed the committee. Committee members introduced themselves.
2. Kay gave a devotion and prayer.
3. Eric updated the committee on video projects including:
  - a. Generosity stories – will be four total; three are shot and one completed
  - b. AMPED and children’s ministry – staff will introduce programs, spaces and procedures for AMPED and Little Blessings; children’s sermons will continue on video; Bible stories will be recorded in front of green screen
  - c. Blessing of World Relief quilts
  - d. Music videos, including Echoes of Grace outdoor recording
4. Technology update was presented by Eric for three projects:
  - a. Streaming of worship services – Staff is exploring different options for streaming; cost depends on the services requested.
  - b. New camera and control board will be arriving soon for Madison campus. The camera will be robotically controlled so staff or a volunteer can operate from one computer.
  - c. Foundation funding has been obtained for a new projector and screen for the Madison campus.
5. Website updates – Alvis updated committee members and photos. Ann will upload minutes of previous two months.
6. Sara presented updates from the COVID 19 Task Force. It recommends that the reopening plan – Forward Together Phase 2 – be revised, reflecting current Dane County recommendations, virus rates and congregation needs.
  - a. Two groups – the Holy Yoga and quilters’ groups – have met outside. An additional four Bible studies are interested in meeting in person. The task force has recommended to permit small groups to meet inside with protocols.
  - b. Outdoor worship will take place in October to gauge interest in meeting outdoors, not as a precedent for meeting indoors.
  - c. Baptisms and funerals – the task force has recommended offering with protocols.
  - d. The revision of Phase 2 and all attempts at meeting in person will require explicit communications.
  - e. Eric wants to plan ahead and be prepared for whenever we’re able to start worshipping in church again.

A calendaring system for scheduling of and registering for church events was discussed. A system will be needed when in-person events return. Alvis and Kirsten volunteered to assist staff with evaluating calendaring needs and systems.

7. Virtual Ministry Fair – One committees – Hospitality – is interested in having videos shot. The video will likely be shown prior to the beginning of worship. Sara will follow up with Stephanie Christensen of Hospitality.
8. Website maintenance – Eric suggested making it easier to upload content and recording training for volunteers. Eric, Jessica McCarty and Rick will meet and discuss. Kirsten will review their recommendations.
9. Fall updates – Confirmation will not be held on Reformation Sunday. Fall and winter events are contingent on the reopening plan.
10. On the horizon – The theme for the generosity campaign is Count Me In, God. Videos will be shown during worship services in October with pledge envelopes to be picked up Nov. 1. Various ways to encourage picking up of envelopes are being discussed. Online pledging will be encouraged.
11. Amy Haskins volunteered to be the Communications Committee chair.
12. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.