

**Minutes**  
**WBLUMC Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 15, 2022 @ 7:00AM via Zoom**

Members Attending: Margie Grilley, chair, Pastor Bill Eaves, Margaret Westin, Chin Oji, David Kittleson, Wes Erwin

Absent: Al Rausch, Jan Peterson

Opening – Pastor Bill opened with a prayer

Minutes of February 15, 2022 meeting had quorum approval via email

**Agenda Items:**

**Leadership Summit recap** – Margie reported on the March 5<sup>th</sup> Leadership Summit. She thought it went fine and there was good turnout in spite of icy weather. She felt that some committees were well prepared with their goals and objectives. She also thought that she could sense a lack of energy among the team leaders and expressed concern that our volunteers are stretched, as well as a lack of volunteer participation across many of the committees. There was discussion about how the board can work with the committees to help them toward their goals. It was decided that each member of the board would work with a committee over the coming year, with a focus on the “core” committees, such as Finance, Staff-Parish, Trustees, Nominating, etc. Margie will compile a list of designated committees for this effort. David volunteered to work with Staff-Parish Relations. There was discussion on how the board can engage congregation members in volunteering for committees, especially Nominating Committee, Bread team, and Adult Faith Formation.

**Racial Justice Initiative & Endowment grant application updates** – Margie reported on recent activities related to the Racial Justice Initiative. She had one-on-one conversations with two potential consultants (Richard Webb and Anthony Galloway). The small group that has formed to start work on the initiative (Margie Grilley, Lori McBride, Jan Peterson, and Pastors Bill and Christine) will meet with Richard and Anthony over Zoom in the coming weeks. Margie also announced that the grant application to the Endowment Committee for \$10,000 for consultant fees was approved. It needs to be spent in 2022.

**Staff Updates** - Pastor Bill reported that the Staff-Parish Relations committee is in talks with Joan Hartman about continuing on with us after her interim position is done in July. Chin asked if we can find out what might entice her to stay. She originally left because she wanted to work full-time. Stephanie Johnson, Children & Youth Ministries assistant, will be done at the end of May. Doug Nelson has been hired as our new organist and his first day is April 20.

**Finance & Stewardship Committees updates** – The year-to-date financial report was sent to board members via email. Bill reported that a representative from the Finance committee will give a presentation at both services on March 27 on the budget shortfall and about additional

giving. The largest debt is the mortgage on the building, approximately \$1M. David suggested we consider implementing a program similar to the 3-year capital improvement campaign when the building was remodeled.

**Board member nominations and election at All-Church Conference** – Pastor Bill and Margie selected May 22, 2022 as the date for the All-Church Conference to elect new board members. There will be 3 openings. According to the By-Laws, nominations can be submitted 8 weeks prior to the election. There can also be nominations on the day of the election. Margie asked Carol Effertz to add a space on the back of the Connection Cards for people to submit names. There will be a notice that runs in the weekly eBlast and names can be submitted to the office. Margie wondered if there was a job description for board members and Mike Hinz's name came up as someone who might have that. Margie will ask him. Margaret asked if there was a list of previous board members. Margie will ask in the office. Wes asked if a board member can be on the board more than once. There is nothing in the By-Laws about that. Bill indicated that the lead pastor puts forth a name for the new chair, in June.

**Hospitality & COVID updates and potential plans for Easter** – Margie reported on the recent coffee and donuts fellowship and that it was successful. The Hospitality committee will begin looking for volunteers to help with fellowship time so that it can be offered more frequently than once a month. Bill said that members continue to ask about masking requirements. There is strong interest in making masks optional by Easter Sunday. David indicated that COVID case numbers are down significantly and there is a good pool of immunity now. He thought that masks could be made optional earlier than Easter. Singing seems to be the biggest issue.

Minutes submitted by Margie Grilley

**Upcoming Board Meetings:**

Tuesday, April 19, 2022 @ 7:00AM (via Zoom) – minutes, David Kittleson

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 @ 7:00AM (via Zoom) – minutes, Margaret Westin

June meeting TBD – possible in-person gathering