

**Leadership Team, Mount Comfort Church, Inc.
August 13, 2024**

Champions of Who We Were | Representatives of Who We Are | Leaders of Who We Are Becoming

Present, Leadership Team Members: Mary Ann Crisman, Mark Gooch, Becky Holm, Sandi Hudson, Gina Jones, Megan Jones, Bruce Kendall, Kathy Lee, Reverend Ethan Maple, Deric Roberts, Roger Skinner, Kristy Willhelm, Jim Winter. **Also Present:** Shawn Matney. **Absent:** Annie Dawson, Marcia Piercy.

LOVE & LEARN –Pastor Ethan opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Mt. Comfort Campus (MtC) of Mt. Comfort Church, Inc. (MCC). He then shared a devotional taken from Matthew 6:11 and opened the meeting with prayer.

LEAD

Approval of July Minutes – Roger Skinner moved, and Becky Holm seconded approval of the minutes of the July 9, 2024, meeting. The motion carried.

Credit Card Increases – None.

Affirm Email Approvals – Credit cards for Lexi Fizer (\$500) and Chris Rose (\$750) were approved via an email vote, and the Leadership Team affirmed this action

By the Numbers:

July Income/Expense | \$39,334.26 – \$42,874.02 = (\$3,539.76)

Joyful Days July Income/Expense | \$39,090.81 - \$31,164.55 = \$7,926.26

General Fund Balance = \$31,120.88 | Joyful Days Balance = \$22,802.78

Restricted Accts = Discipleship = \$15,992.29 | Missions = \$18,251.29 |

Facility = \$65,468.95 | Rainy Day = \$31,745.64 | Joyful Days = \$67,223.21

Pastor Ethan noted that in the summer months, church income can be lower than budgeted; however, November and December income tends to make up the difference.

Attendance -- Philly/MtC = July 7 – 44/107 | July 14 – 50/107 | July 21 – 44/115 | July 26 – 40/139 |
Philly Campus Average: 44.5 | Mt. Comfort Campus Average: 117 | Combined Average: 161.5

Discussion Items

General Follow-Up

Worship Leader Transition – The Leadership Team discussed the transition to a new worship leader and assistant, and the comments were positive and supportive. Chris Rose, Worship Leader, and Noah Maple, Worship Leader Assistant, have proposed purchasing a Nord Stage Piano 5 88-key at a discounted price of \$2,900. Jim Winter moved, and Mark Gooch seconded the purchase of the Nord Stage Piano as presented, with \$1,000 paid from the Worship fund and \$2,000 paid from Rainy Day fund. The motion carried. For security reasons, this stage piano must be placed in a locked area when it is not in use.

Kids' Ministry Leadership – Mary Ann Crisman reported that Lexi Fizer has taken over as the new director of the Kids' Ministry program and is doing a good job. The biggest challenge is to get volunteers to help with the Sunday morning program. Her work with the Joyful Days program and chapel is going well, receiving positive feedback from parents. Becky Holm moved, and Roger Skinner seconded that MCC increase the compensation of Lexi Fizer a total of \$3,600/year for her employment as the Director of Mt. Comfort's Church Kids' Ministry. The motion carried.

Pictorial Directory Update – Roger Skinner reported that 65 appointments have been scheduled for the church pictorial directory, and 16 open slots remain. Some confusion resulted in the electronic sign-up for a photo session. Photo sessions are scheduled for September 6 and 7. If a family cannot attend a photo session and wants to submit their own photo for inclusion in the church directory, a fee of \$25 will be charged.

Comfort House Update – Pastor Ethan reported the family in Unit A of The Comfort House has transitioned out, and a vacancy now exists. Some repairs and furniture replacements are needed; these costs will be deducted from the family's damage deposit. The family in Unit B are progressing toward transitioning out, but they are not there yet.

Expand Philly Campaign Update – Pastor Ethan reported that two vacant lots west and adjacent to the Philly Campus are still listed for sale, 0.8 acre total at \$75,000. In conversations with the realtor, Pastor Ethan learned

that the family is in conversation with a commercial entity which has expressed interest in the two parcels. To date, \$37,970 in pledges and donations have been received for the purchase, should Mt. Comfort Church acquire the property.

Building Usage– Pastor Ethan said the church facilities will have more requests for building use in the fall and winter. Mary Ann Crisman presented a request for an instructor to use the Mt. Comfort Campus facility for a yoga class. After discussion, the consensus was to pursue this possibility and get more information. The class would begin after fall break.

The Philly Campus was used recently for a law enforcement drug dog training.

Notary Public Proposal – Pastor Ethan discussed with the team the addition of a notary public, who would be available for the church and its congregants. Kathy Lee reported the requirements for becoming a notary: a \$25,000 surety bond, background check, \$75 application fee, pass an exam, \$16.32 fee, good for eight years. Kristy Willhelm moved, and Deric Roberts seconded paying the expenses for Kathy Lee to become a notary public who would be available to serve Mt. Comfort Church. The motion carried.

Calendar and Ministry Updates

Joyful Days – Gina Jones provided a written report to the team prior to the meeting and shared some highlights. Per the written report, 36 children are enrolled in Joyful Days served by 14 staff members and two directors. Staff focus is on continuing education, lesson plans, and a curriculum map.

Immersion Groups – The fall sessions of Immersion groups will begin September 12 and 16.

Youth – Mary Ann Crisman reported that she will be posting a job description for hiring a director for the Mt. Comfort Church Student Lighthouse Ministry.

Work Day – A church work day is set for Saturday, September 24, at the Philly Campus, 8 a.m. – noon.

Car Show/Fish Fry – Volunteers are needed for the Mt. Comfort Church Car Show, set for September 14. Sign-up sheets will be available online and at both church campuses.

Christmas 2024 Schedule – December 1 – Ladies' Christmas Tea; December 7 – Holiday Bazaar; December 15 – Joyful Days Christmas Program/PJ Party; December 22 – Longest Night Service; December 24 – Christmas Eve Service (MtC) December 29 – No in-person worship.

Personnel Discussion– Staff and guests were excused so that the Leadership Team could discuss a personnel matter. The matter involves medical leave and will require a change to the language in the Mt. Comfort Church, Inc. Staff Handbook. Pastor Ethan will follow-up with proposed language, which he will email to the team.

For the Good of the Church

Pastor Ethan and his wife Crystal will be hosting a Leadership Team/Staff cookout and pitch-in at their home September 21. A Worship Team cookout and pitch-in is set for September 28 at their home as well.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:43 p.m. The next meeting of the Leadership Team is set for September 10.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hudson
Recorder