

SLIDE #1

TOWN HALL MEETING

November 6, 2013

SLIDE #2 WELCOME

Good evening. I am Linda Ice, President of the Congregation, and am pleased to welcome you to our third Town Hall Meeting. We will begin our time this evening with the lighting of our chalice.

SLIDE #3 CHALICE LIGHTING

SLIDE #4 WESTSIDE IS ALIVE AND WELL!

Well, this is the “lull” in this time of transition that we’ve been waiting for! And that is not a bad thing! We said our goodbyes to Russell and Gayle in the most meaningful ways possible and now the wheels are in full motion for us to begin the search for an Interim Minister as well as a contract minister.

Westside is alive and well!

- We had over 160 people in attendance last Sunday at church!
- There are at least 6 prospective members attending the Exploring Membership class this weekend...maybe as many as 12!
- We also have several attending a weekend an NTUUC workshop at Glen Rose this weekend.
- The auction was “wildly successful” last Friday evening. Totals to be announced on Sunday 😊
- Erin Smutz of the Worship Team has continued working to fill the pulpit for the next several months.
- The SMART program is continuing under the leadership of Carolyn Glenn.

SLIDE # 5 INTERIM TASK FORCE

The Interim Task Force held their organizational meeting on October 16th and selected Mark McMurry as Chair and Andrea Petty as Secretary. They reviewed the schedule of deadlines for submission of applications and information to secure an accredited UUA Interim Minister. They will be meeting on the 2nd Wednesday evening of each month.

It might be a good time to remind you that during this entire transitions process there will be two committees charged with seeking our ministerial leadership. The first is this Interim Task Force. Appointed by the board, they will develop our application packet to send to the UUA. The UUA will match our packet to those of accredited ministers seeking a position and then we will make a selection from those who appear to be a "good fit". The Interim Minister should be in place by September of 2014.

At some point during the Interim Process, we will be forming the Ministerial Search Committee. The board will be create a slate of church members, approximately 10, whose names will be put before the congregation for a vote. Of the 10 or so, we will elect 5 – 6 church members to fulfill the responsibilities to seek our next settled minister. Those serving on the Interim Task Force may be on the slate of nominees, but not necessarily.

The Interim Task Force will also be developing a job description, salary package, and application for the search of a contract minister. This is the very short term, very limited responsibility position that the board has decided to seek to cover some of the vacant period of time without ministerial leadership at Westside. We would likely not have someone begin before March or April, but that is yet to be determined as well. The ITF will be working with the Finance Committee as well to make the most sound financial decisions for the church.

SLIDE #6 CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

The Long Range Planning Committee, under the leadership of Joy Counts, has been working very hard to create a comprehensive survey which will provide an updated profile of our congregation. They, along with representation from the Committee on Ministry, will be meeting on November 18th to finalize questions to be included in the survey. They have received some input from individuals as well as several committees. They continue to welcome any input you may have with a deadline of November 15th for those suggestions to be taken to this final meeting.

The survey will be presented to the members of the congregation late in January for individual completion. Results will be published later in the spring or early summer. This profile will then be the foundation for collaborative efforts and dialogue within the congregation as we develop the next long range plan for our church. We are taking this whole project slowly and deliberately. The tentative goal for completion of the long range plan is summer of 2015. So, we are trying to be very thoughtful in the creation of this plan to meet the needs and desires of our growing congregation!

SLIDE #7 Q & A

At this time, we will open the floor to questions and comments. We will keep our format the same as the last two months: if you have a question that you would like to present this evening, please line up alongside the south wall of the sanctuary and as it is your turn, state your name and question into the mic. We will ask you to hold your question or comment to two minutes this evening to better ensure that everyone will have the opportunity to ask their question. Time will be allowed for response from me, Russell or another member of the board. _____ will serve as our timekeeper.

If you prefer to write your question, please state your question on one of the provided notecards and place it in the basket here at the front table. One of our directors will be reviewing the questions to avoid duplication and we will allow time toward the end of the evening for these questions to be answered.

Secretary, Reed Bilz and Vice-President, Cindy Fountain will be taking notes of your questions and comments. We wish to ensure that your questions are answered completely, either this evening or after further research and review!

Q & A

WRITTEN Q & A

WRAP UP

Once again, on behalf of the board, I would like to thank you for your attendance this evening. We will continue to post updates on the Ministerial Transitions link under Church Business on the church website. With this being a slower period in the events of transition, we will be suspending the Town Hall Meetings until the first Wednesday in February. That date would be February 5th. We invite you to come back that evening as we continue to keep our lines of communication open!

And now, as we rise in body or spirit, Director, _____ will offer our Closing Words.

SLIDE #8 CLOSING WORDS

EXTINGUISH CHALICE

SLIDE #9 CONGREGATIONAL CLOSING

Let us go in peace,

believe in peace,

and create peace in our lives and in the world.

SLIDE #10 NEXT MEETING DATE