

Discernment Team Minutes
Meeting #23
Thursday, January 24, 2008

Present: Steve Thulson, Leslie Good, Jim Reiner, Jeff Warren, Valerie Weyand, Myrna Beblavi, Jon Hardin, Mark Bradley (notes). Absent: Becky Holmlund

Meeting opened with prayer for our listening to God together.

Congregational Feedback: None

Discussion:

Darlene presented an addendum to her “hopes, fears and disappointments” conversation.

Discussion about how best to gain congregational input brought up dialogue on allowing anonymous input, speaking for others, and soliciting input from those who have left.

Re: soliciting input from past members / attendees.

- We are trying to lead the current body, and don't have a sense that it is a good investment of limited time and energy to follow up others. However, we will take into account the information we do have which the Pastoral Staff has always made an effort to gain.
- Systemic issues will come out from current members

Re: anonymous input and speaking for others. We feel that it would be counter productive to the overall process. We are asking members of the body to “own” their comments.

We also felt we should try to steer conversations away from “hearsay” reports.

Re: the need for preparation / written input. We do want people to prepare their thoughts beforehand. Steve is considering giving some time during the service to facilitate opportunities for everyone to give input. All recognize that people process differently and some will wish to convey their thoughts on this topic without writing. Opportunities for non-written input will be provided during Conversations and/or meeting with team members.

Discussion about “Centennial Conversations II” meeting content and logistics:
Dates and times: February 19 – 7:00; February 24 – 6:30; February 28 – 7:00, March 3 – 7:00. A minimum of four Discernment Team members will be present at each Conversation to allow splitting in to smaller groups if more than 15 people attend. Follow up written comments will be welcomed and an opportunity to arrange an

individual meeting with Discernment Team members will be offered as some comments or concerns may be best suited for an individual conversation.

Discernment Team members will announce the dates and information about the Conversations in church on 2/10 and 2/17.

Next meeting:

February 5th at 6 pm