

Core Team Update

June – December 2016

By Betsy Stites, Core Team Chair

The Core Team continues to meet twice a month from 6:30 – 7:30 A.M. the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. As new members this year, Deb Berglund, Jill Easton, Jenni Edney, Pastor Kelly Lamon and Rick Osborn bring wonderful spirit, commitment and ideas to the team. Sadie-jo Kobussen, Charlie Maier, Betsy Stites and Pastor Dan Wetterstrom complete the dynamic group that helps to strengthen our vision of *Sharing the Joy, Living the Faith* and *Being the Hope*.

As 2016 comes to a close, there is much to be thankful for. The attention of the Core Team has focused on many areas including:

- Hiring and on-boarding three new staff: Deb Berglund, Financial Manager; Pastor Kelly Lamon, Associate Pastor; Katie Matson-Daley, Volunteer and Ministry Coordinator.
- Being selected as one of 6 churches in the Conference to participate in the Missional Church Consultation Initiative (MCCI).
- Establishing a Welcome team.
- Installation of solar panels, the first on a church in Woodbury.
- Repainting of the South steeple.
- Implementation of the Stewardship fall campaign, “Will You Build Me a House.” It marked the integration of the capital and operations budgeting process into one fall financial appeal. Thus far 238 pledges, a 7% increase from last year have been received for a total of \$766,000.
- Approval of the 2017 budget
- Initiating the process for re-financing the church mortgage to a 15- year range from a 20-year range.
- Approval for the Endowment Committee to expend up to \$8,400 from the general purpose Endowment Fund for start-up and marketing purposes.
- Adoption of finance policies and procedures
- Completed conversion of the data financial software system.
- Approval of distribution of half of Turkey dinner proceeds (\$2,850) to Spirit River United Methodist Church.
- Completion of the audit for 2014.
- Installation of a security system for office and electrical area.

Look for end of year financial statistics and budget for 2017 in the February *Insites*. December is the most important and largest giving month in the year for the church. The Core Team is looking forward with great anticipation as we enter the MCCI process and examine how Woodbury Peaceful Grove is being called to serve Christ in the New Year.