



Asbury Leadership Team Meeting 7.1.25 Recap

Asbury's Leadership Team met on Tuesday, July 1, 2025 for the team's monthly meeting. After an opening devotion, the team's sub-groups gave their reports.

The Finance Sub-group submitted the May Treasurer's Report and Financials for discussion. We received \$45,441.80 in the month of May and the total for the year is \$274,077.79 which is \$13,682.02 over budget. This includes over \$16,000 for Tree of Life given during Lent. Expenses for the month of May were \$60,463.25 which is higher than normal but included the check delivered to Tree of Life which left us with a negative cash flow for the month of May for \$-15,041.45. The total expenses for the year is \$262,857.79 which is \$2,462.02 over budget. Income for the year is at 44% of our annual budget and expenses are at 42% through the end of May.

There are still some questions about how the church credit cards are to be used and how expenses are to be reported. If the balance is being paid off as purchases are being made, staff members may not have an accurate estimate of available credit on their cards. There are also questions about how staff will know if upcoming expenses may run into challenges due to the church's cashflow. Anna Suckow is willing to work with staff and Limestone to improve communication and to help clarify what types of purchases should be made on individual staff cards and which should be made on the card held in the office. Nathan Grau also mentioned that volunteers making more frequent purchases requiring reimbursement might want to talk to Sarah Wagenaar about getting signed up for bill.com so reimbursement can happen via direct deposit rather than waiting for a check.

The Trustees sub-group reported that they have not met since last month's meeting but that work is continuing on the Nursery remodel. The Nursery has been painted and Montgomery's will be in soon to install the flooring. The timeline for cabinetry is still a little uncertain and we may also need to bring in a plumber if Adam Ellsworth is not available to do those projects. .

Other updates from the Trustees sub-group included an update on the south-side landscaping from Jim Gray which is severely eroding. The sub-group is looking at a variety of solutions but something will need to be done in order to prevent any issues for our neighbors to the south of the church. Another update is that the playground gate keeps getting broken, so Jim is going to take it off rather than making it more difficult to open in order to prevent damage to the fencing. The sub-group is also still working on a plan to replace ceiling tiles in the church.

The SPR sub-group shared that pastor reviews with the Dakotas Conference were due on July 1 but we have been given an extension for September 1 because the email with the form

was overlooked. This will be added to the sub-group's calendar for future years in order to ensure it is not missed in the future.

An update on planning for Asbury's 75th Anniversary celebrations in September was given by Carly Ellsworth who reported that 15 people came to the first meeting of the task force that will be working on this project. The Leadership Team discussed what kind of budget should be set for the celebration and it was decided to this year's distribution from Asbury's endowment could be approved for this purpose.

The team then had a conversation about one of the sessions that was experienced by Asbury's delegation to this year's Dakotas Annual Conference. The discussion was based on Rev. Dr. Tim Eberhart's session on "Fireseeds of Renewal" and the question, "How does it feel to be called to ministry in a time of poly-crisis?" The team recognized that we live in difficult times but these are also times of great opportunity. We have an opportunity to be a safe space for people to meet God. We also realize that other generations have gone through similar times and have found ways to persevere. We also asked what we should be doing as a church in times like these. No matter the challenge, we have to love. We have to take who we can affect today and focus on them while leading by example.

We recognize that one of the keys to addressing the things people are experiencing is found in our strategic plan via the development of a new adult discipleship ministry framework. A task force will be put together to work on this project.

This led into the Pastors' reports where Kip shared about our recent new member class. He also shared that Emily Lawrence had taken part in a cohort for Youth Ministry training done by Ministry Architects. As a result of Asbury's growth in Youth Ministry, TENx10 will be featuring Asbury's Youth ministry for a story for their Leadership Summit in Atlanta in October.

The next meeting of the Asbury Leadership Team will be on Tuesday, August 5 at 5:30 p.m.