

## MDT

### Coordinator of Volunteers report

August 31, 2015

#### Updates:

- Youth Leader Workshops with Randy Keeler in April and May
  - 6 workshops held around Conference
  - 54 people attended
  - 23 congregations represented
- Mentor/Mentee Retreat on May 19
  - 5 mentor/mentee pairs attended (out of 15 pairs possible)
  - Terry Shue provided input
  - Positive feedback – would like to see more retreats for mentors/mentees
  - There were \$650 requested from MDT's 2014-15 budget originally; **\$214 not used and is to be returned to MDT**
- New Pastor Orientation on June 7-8
  - 5 pastors with spouses attended (out of 16 possible pastors)
  - Ralph reported that it was “a good group which connected well with each other”
  - There were \$1250 requested from MDT's 2014-15 budget originally; **\$668 not used and is to be returned to MDT**
- LEAD3D on August 14-15
  - 9 youth and mentors attended
  - Bethany Nussbaum, leader, stated that “the weekend went well”

#### Upcoming:

- Women in Ministry retreat on October 6-7
- Pastor/Spouse retreat on November 13-15
- Lead3D on February 12-13, 2016
- Pastor/Elder retreat
  - West: February 5-6, 2016 at Widewater Retreat Center, Liberty Center
  - East: February 19-20, 2016 at **Camp Buckeye, Beach City** (this is a change from previously)
  - See attached funding request
- Couples in Ministry retreat on May 2, 2016
  - To be held at Camp Luz
  - Dave and Janice Sutter will be input speakers
  - Committee to still be formed to work on actual plans

#### Action:

- 1) Funding request for Pastor/Elder retreat is attached and needs MDT approval
- 2) Update on Summer Youth Event is attached
  - MDT needs to give approval for go-ahead if they see this event as valuable
    - Approve/adapt financial request that is included in update
    - MDT needs to suggest names of potential members to serve on a planning committee, as speakers, as worship band/leaders

## MDT Funding Request

### Pastor-Elder Retreat

February 5-6, 2016 West (Widewater Retreat Center)

February 19-20, 2016, East (Camp Buckeye)

The intent of the Pastor-Elder Retreat is to provide a time for participants to work as a pastor/elder team, focusing on team building and resourcing for congregational health.

Due to this retreat being offered to pastor and elder teams, some churches may be sending a number of individuals. Therefore, the committee would like to offer this retreat to participants for a cost of \$50 per attendee. In order to cover expenses, in the planning for 75 individuals at each location, **the Retreat Planning Committee is requesting up to \$1750 from MDT** to help cover these expenses.

Lodging at Camp Buckeye	\$850
Meals at Camp Buckeye	\$1500
Lodging/Meals at Widewater	\$5100
Resource Person (room and meals, mileage, stipend)	\$1800
Less registration fees	<u>-\$7500</u>
	<b>\$1750</b>

If there are excess funds after expenses, funds granted by MDT would be returned.

A. Short 6.15.15

## Ohio Youth Event Survey Summary June 2015

Surveys were sent out concerning hosting an event during the summer of 2016 to a list of youth leaders/sponsors. There were 41 churches that received the survey with 17 responding, for a 41% return rate.

### Questions/Responses:

#### 1) How many youth are in your youth group?

- groups vary in size from 3-50 youth

#### 2) Would your youth group be interested in attending an Ohio Youth Event in 2016?

- YES – 80%
- NO – 20%

#### **Please explain your answer:**

- *These varied. An overarching theme was that student schedules are hard to plan around and youth groups go on service projects on off-convention years, possibly causing scheduling conflicts with this event. A couple of groups were concerned about the cost of a service trip and this event. One youth group was comprised mainly of junior highers and no high schoolers.*

#### 3) What dates during the summer of 2016 would your group prefer?

- Dates were ranked in this order, with number 1 being the most preferred:
  - 1) end of June
  - 2) beginning of July
  - 3) mid-July
  - 4) end of July

#### 4) Is there a specific theme that would be helpful for your group?

- Responding to God's call on your life, living faithfully in the digital age
- Methods of Bible Study, with everything that is bombarding us these days, how do I know what is Truth?
- Personal integrity
- Translating faith into everyday life
- Evangelism and outreach
- Discipleship
- The early church
- Acts 2
- Space Invaders - the kingdom of God advances through US- we can go offensive into spaces and places-- especially into other's lives, with Christ, to make an eternal difference!

#### 5) Is there a specific workshop or recreation option that you would like to have?

- How to handle Smartphones
- Problem-solving
- Dynamic worship, small group time, recreation, workshops by gifted leaders on relevant topics
- How to set up a student-led youth group
- Ropes course or team-building exercises
- Night games
- Group games with other youth groups would be great. Ways to mix our kids up. They also really appreciate good, solid worship music. Workshops on issues related to youth are helpful; i.e. sex, bullying, balancing sports and life, future, missions, meaningful work, college and careers.
- A blend of activities and unstructured times for friendships to develop across the conference.

**6) Additional comments or suggestions:**

- It would be great to have the youth leave with some sort of encouragement to be the church in particular ways in their schools and community. Encouragement to lead in their congregations in a particular way.
- I would actually suggest earlier in June. July becomes difficult with sports and family vacations. For us, on the years when there is not a national MC convention we typically plan some sort of mission/service trip and often do it the week that includes July 4 as there are typically few families in our church on vacation then and typically fewer sports activities that week.
- Acknowledging that we are a non-creedal church, the Apostle's Creed would be a great thing to utilize/teach through this event.

**Proposal**

Based on the positive feedback from the 2012 event and the responses to the recent survey, it is recommended that Ohio Conference sponsor another Ohio Youth Event for the summer of 2016 at Bluffton University.

**Purpose:** The Ohio Youth Event is a time for Ohio Conference youth to commit or recommit their lives to Christ. The event will encourage gifts for ministry and service, strengthen Anabaptist identity, connect youth with mission, service and higher education options while building relationships among conference youth.

**Date:** June 24-26, 2016

**Location:** Bluffton University

**Theme:** To be determined – a theme about living faithfully in the digital age could encompass a number of the theme ideas seen in the survey responses

**Input speakers:** To be determined

**Worship band:** To be determined

**Number Attending:** While this is difficult to determine, our goal, based on the 2012 event, would be 100 attendees.

**Costs:** Based on 100 attendees, an estimated cost for the event would be **around \$13,010**. In 2012, registration costs were \$80 (late registration was \$90). For the 2016 event we could charge **\$85** (late registration **\$95**). Below is a breakout of prices.

**Prices per person:**

<i>Lodging:</i>	\$41
<i>Meals:</i>	\$39
	<b>\$80</b>

**Possible fixed prices (based on previous events' pricing):**

*(includes meals, lodging, mileage, payment)*

<i>Input speaker:</i>	\$770
<i>Worship band:</i>	\$2000
<i>Drama leaders:</i>	\$665
<i>Community Life:</i>	\$1328
<i>Staff:</i>	\$246
	<b>\$5009</b>

**Financial request from MDT:** If this event is approved by MDT, it is requested that MDT budgets **\$5000** to use toward the expenses for this retreat. If there are excess funds after expenses, funds granted by MDT would be returned. (For the 2012 event, \$2500 was requested from 2011-2012 funds and \$2500 requested from 2012-2013 funds.)