

Mid-year Report from the Governance Team  
From Barbara Allender, Chair

Many of you heard the mid-year review at the August 17 potluck. For those not in attendance, here is a summary of the Governance Team activity to date.

1) Listening Post activities to get feedback from groups and individuals regarding what they value about Central Church. A summary of those comments was reviewed by the Governance Team. In general, comments centered on

- Communication—desire for improved sharing of information and better use a variety means of listening and disseminating that information.

- Hospitality/volunteers—there is a desire for the church to be as hospitable and welcoming as possible. And to identify way to engage newcomers and old-timers in activities of the church.

- Programs/ministries—in general there was an expression of interest in a variety of small group studies, diverse ministry, community involvement.

2) What has been done to date?

- George Faulhaber has assembled a team which is working on developing a specific communication plan. In the meantime [listeningpost@centraltolife.com](mailto:listeningpost@centraltolife.com) has been set up for anyone who has a comment, suggestion, request to use to communicate with the Governance Team. Of course, that can always be done personally.

- COMPASS Points, which is the ministry group within the new governance structure is evaluating programs in place to determine effectiveness, quality, volunteer support.

On their recommendation, the Governance Team approved entering into a contract with the YMCA to operate a day care program—replacing Little Sunbeams. This program is now in full operation with enrollment almost triple what it was previously and with a higher quality rating by the State Licensing office.

New Day Worship will move from 9:45 am on Sunday mornings to 11:00 am on August 20. This change is partly in response to the concern that those attending that service have no opportunity to attend Sunday School/education group.

- Hanna Estate Funds: The Governance Team approved a recommendation to establish COMPASS Points (the above ministry group) as the Engage Team

adopted by the then Church Council in 2014 to implement program development responsibilities identified by the Samuel Project. COMPASS Points will be guided by the goals set by the Governance Team and aligned with the Vision Pathway. Any programming requiring renovation and/or physical realignment of the building must include representation from the Trustees in planning and development. Recommendations, including Hanna Estate Funds requested (including capital) will be approved by the Governance Team.

### 3) Governance Team Retreat

-On August 17 the Governance Team will have a retreat to focus on the near and medium term future of Central. We will be setting goal(s) for where Central should be and identifying steps to get us there. Hopefully, this will provide a framework for us to move forward.

And as a final note from me personally as Chair of the Governance Team, this look at the future will undoubtedly provide challenges to us as a church and as individuals within Central. It will likely call upon us to embrace change and to establish new traditions, while at the same time honoring the long history and tradition that is Central United Methodist Church.