

Annual Report by the Program Team Chair

May 2017

This year, after election to the position of Vice-President of Programs, I was issued a Charge by the Board of Trustees to renew and reinvigorate our Program Board. Three other church members, Tom Reid, Nelah McComsey, and Chris Spencer joined me in study and research to determine if there were new directions that our current Program Board might move, or improved ways for our Programs to be available to the congregation. Our research led us not to major governance changes, but to renewal and updating of our current practices.

Here is a brief list of our small but specific recommendations:

- Change Board to Team

- Change Vice-President of Programs to Program Team Chair

- Set quarterly meetings.

- Complete and update the organizational chart as soon as possible and make it available on the website. We recommend that this chart be kept up to date by the Membership Staff person. Regularly update job descriptions.

- Renew the Denominational Affairs position and combine it with the NTUUC Representative with a new job description determining where this position reports, how the position is filled (election by congregation or appointment by BOT which we recommend, and term limits for the job. Currently this information is lost because there is literally no one to receive it officially.

- Review Covenant Groups. We feel that this is a useful program, but do not know if it belongs with the Program Team, Worship or the Minister.

- Remove Worship Chair as an elected position on the Program Team, as this team regularly and actually reports to the Minister.

- Re-establish monthly reporting to improve visibility and communications.

- Take on more collective actions and improve inter-committee work.

- Review on an annual basis how our programs relate to our overall mission.

The corrections to the By-Laws are attached in a separate document for your approval, but many of the above recommendations of the Renewal Committee will be carried out by the actions of the team and the refining of our policies and procedures over the coming year.

Your Program Board has been doing a fine job over this last year in providing leadership for the many activities that our Church undertakes. You can see evidence of their work in our e-blasts and newsletters and the actions that you yourself have participated in. I want to thank these people for their hard work and dedication over this last year: Rob Hight, Fellowship Chair; Celeste Kennedy, Adult Enrichment and NTUUC Representative; Janice Hildenbrand, Social Action Chair; Kimberly Schramm, Membership Chair, Brennan Hadden, Religious Education Board President, and Elena Westbrook, Worship Services Chair.

I also want to thank the people that served on and worked with our Renewal Team. You have made a real contribution to the vision, strength and direction of our future work.