

Minutes of ALB Meeting on
March 10, 2020

Attendance

ALB: Kathy Schluter, Mike Stoehr, Dick Barnes, Sean Gaffney, John Frunceck, Sharon Garrett, Julie Whitney

Staff: Pastor Matt, Nell Nash, Pam Vaughan, Monica Bessette, Becky McMenimen

Guests: Craig Walker, Laurie Jeffrey, Roanne Barnes, Barb Abraham, Dick and Loretto Steinmetz

Dick opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Minutes - Kathy

The minutes of the February meeting were approved with one correction.

Devotion - Pastor Matt

Pastor Matt referenced a devotion he heard recently on alternative orthodoxy or 'orthopraxy' which emphasizes right practice over right doctrine. Jesus asks us to change, grow and take action instead of being afraid of change - to be the church!

Pastor's Report - Pastor Matt

The Children's Musical is March 15 and has 46 children in the cast. Matt will preach about Jonah at the Saturday and Sunday 8 am services. Attendance has been down but on-line worship has increased and the All-Church meeting was well-attended.

Matt will give staff reviews during the next two weeks.

There are several people interested in joining the church.

The Easter Offering letter will be going out soon.

The library dedication in Ghana was attended by Nicholas Borman. There is a 6-minute video on You Tube.

The Israel trip being planned for next January is in limbo due to the coronavirus pandemic.

In response to the coronavirus, there will be no hand shaking as part of passing of the peace and no intinction for communion.

Playground Re-design - Monica and Becky

Monica and Becky described the layout of the new playground. The current playground was built in 1989 for older children and needs to be updated. The new playground will be more nature-based and welcoming and will allow the indoor curriculum to be continued outside. The new playground will include a garden, kitchen, large wooden platform with a slide and a hill, a horizontal climbing wall and a construction area. The total cost will be \$95,000-110,000 but, with volunteers doing much of the work, the expected actual cost will be \$50,000. They plan to install the playground this summer after the roof project is completed.

Monica is struggling to recruit teachers for Carpenter Shop and is currently down three teachers. She has tried many services and offers better than average compensation but the market is very competitive.

Tree of Life is facing increased competition from too many preschools in the area and Carpenter Shop is competing for K-3s with elementary schools.

Recent and Upcoming Events - Easter - April 12

Commitment Sunday - May 10

Confirmation - May 17

Charge Conference - May 18

Coronavirus Precautions -

Sharon described the rapid spread of the coronavirus, the warnings issued by the CDC and WHO and the precautions being taken elsewhere in the US. In Milwaukee, four college students have tested positive and the WI State Health Dept. has cautioned the state to prepare for more. Unlike SARS and MERS, the coronavirus is easily transmitted and can live for 2-3 days on aluminum, wood, plastic and glass. The most at risk population is people over age 65 or with high blood pressure, diabetes, cancer and heart disease. Children under 9 years old have not been affected but can be carriers.

Dick and Loretto Steinmetz recommended that the Rummage Sale be postponed to the Fall or cancelled this year. They noted that the sale is a 7-day event, brings in a lot of shoppers from the community and, with the handling of money and goods, creates many opportunities for the virus to be transmitted. Also most of the volunteers are over 65 and in the at risk group. The ALB accepted their recommendation, thanked them for their hard work to date on the event and asked them to let their workers know. The church will announce the cancellation during the weekend services and in the JoyNotes.

Kathy listed several areas that should be monitored such as Carpenter Shop, Tree of Life, School for Seniors and WNL and asked SPRT to review the employee policies on compensation for quarantined employees. It was also suggested that a pastoral letter be sent to the congregation specifying the precautions the church is taking and its policies going forward.

Finally, Sharon recommended that an advisory group be formed and planning protocol be established. She and Dick volunteered to be on the group.

Strategic Plan Initiatives and Dashboard - Kathy

Kathy distributed the dashboards submitted by the staff for several of the initiatives under the Strategic Plan. Two additional dashboards were submitted by Pam Vaughan and Anne Eversfield. Kathy will create a composite dashboard based on the dashboards received.

Trustees - Dick

Church Roof Update - Ron is creating a bidders list and will hold a walk through soon. The old HVAC for the Narthex (not replaced in the 2013 HVAC project) should now be replaced and gas piping to existing units removed and ducts adjusted as part of

the roof project. Dick moved and Kathy seconded that the church accept the Butters-Fetting bids of \$19,500 for the Narthex HVAC and \$7,500 for the gas piping and duct work. The motion passed unanimously.

Foundation of 820 and 816 - The steel foundation supports have been installed in both houses. Frank Kotecki installed new ceiling lights and removed the power line. Dan's chimney needs repair - a squirrel came down the chimney. Dick moved and Mike seconded that Trustees spend \$5160 to replace the damper, liner and chimney cap in 820. The motion passed unanimously.

Sale of 810 E. Glen - Trustees decided to use Maureen Stalle as the broker for the sale and not except the prospect who was referred by a church member. Maureen has already reduced her commission by 1% to 5%. Mary Paull and the Rosies will clean 810 to ready it for showing. [Kathy received a response from the Village that shifting the lot line and creating a setback violation is acceptable provided the deed includes a restriction that the house will be torn down within one year after the sale and replaced with a house that complies with the setback requirement.]

Kathy and Laurie will work with the surveyor to finalize the survey and the new legal description for 810. [Unfortunately, the Register of Deeds is closed until further notice due to the coronavirus so the deed changing the lot line cannot be filed.]

Dick moved and Sean seconded that all proceeds from the sale of 810 be reserved for the repair, maintenance and improvement of 816 and 820. The motion passed unanimously. A discussion followed about the various accounts used for Trustees - the Maintenance Reserve Fund from the sale of 800 and 806, the 2017 Capital Campaign fund, the new 810 fund and the operating budget. It was decided to remove capital expenditures from the Trustees operating budget. Trustees with Craig Walker will develop guidelines for the use of the capital funds and bring them back to ALB for discussion and approval.

Proposed Christ Scientist Development

WiRED Properties has still not submitted a final proposal to the Village. The church has undertaken a letter-writing campaign to oppose the proposal. Kathy urged anyone on ALB who had not done so to write a letter to the Village.

SPR Report - Dick

Staff reviews are almost complete.

The assessment of Pastor Matt by ALB and staff was completed and delivered to Pastor Matt and ALB.

Technology Report - John

John is developing a proposal for Steve Brooke to conduct a security audit of the church network. One question is who has the password for the church website and who should be the primary administrator. Most thought it should be Anne but John will decide once he is given administrative access.

Financial Update - Sean and Pam

The church had a net operating deficit at the end of February of \$2,703.66. This is a big improvement from the January deficit of \$12,724.46 and compares very favorably to the

to \$29,041 deficit at this time last year.

The Capital Campaign has received \$840,901 and has a cash balance of \$174,742.

The Special Roof Appeal has received \$322,946 and paid \$2,271 for the patch of the flat roof over the education wing. The \$25,000 matching grant has been fully funded.

Closed Session

Sharon closed the meeting in prayer.

The next ALB meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 14 at 6:30 pm in the Youth Room (or by Zoom or conference call).

Respectfully submitted, Kathleen Schluter