

St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Board of Directors Meeting Minutes August 20, 2020 (via teleconference)

2020 St. Paul's Board of Directors present:

Zac Huffman, Bernice Prescott, Cyndie Dixon, Jen Houck, Tom Cook, Pastor Teklu

Not present: Diane Segelhorst, Rick Wood

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Pastor Teklu offered the opening prayer, thanking the Lord for allowing us to meet and seeking guidance as we attempt to serve the kingdom.

The minutes of the BoD meeting of August 5, 2020 BoD were approved, with the typographical error in the original draft corrected.

Treasurer's Report - July, 2020

July Budget Status: 72.7% of goal, down from June 73.5%

- Offerings YTD: \$86,130.26; under goal: **(\$32,363.53)**

- Expenses YTD: \$155,477.46; over budget **(\$21,754.82)**

- Overall YTD: (all income minus expenses) **(\$55,133.14)**

- Revised 7/1/2020 Budget : \$244,820.14; increase of \$39,430.90 over 2019

The treasurer's report was accepted as submitted.

Pastor's Report

1. Pastor Teklu reported that he has conducted ten family meetings in the past two weeks and these have been productive and helpful for him to become acquainted with the families. Home visits were conducted for 14 families, including nine by telephone for the homebound.
2. The Galatians Bible study is continuing, via Zoom and in person.
3. Ministry meetings continue, including meetings with staff, ministry and worship teams, and with Pastor Dave and Zac Huffman. Pastor Teklu is meeting weekly with Pastor Dave for mentoring, which he finds very helpful. Pastor Teklu has attended one circuit meeting to date and a district workshop on reconciliation, providing information for the congregation to reconcile internally and with the community. Discussions on racism provided much new information for him. He reported that the SED website has a link to access information on the racism problem.
4. Pastor Teklu reported that communions will be held on Sunday for those who are not able to be in the sanctuary; this will be for members only.
5. The VBS BOLT closing service is this evening. Pastor Teklu reported that the children seem to be enjoying the program; a complete report will be provided. It was noted that Bonnie Weinhold will likely include a report in the September newsletter.

6. A ministry planning meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Wednesday, August 26, 2020.
7. Pastor Schaefer, Pastor Dave and Zac Huffman have discussed the planned mentoring for Pastor Teklu. The SED is presently trying to arrange a mentoring program for six new pastors, so it was suggested and agreed that Pastor Dave will continue the process with Pastor Teklu.

Open Items from Last Meeting

1. Following on the previous discussion concerning live streaming material during the communion portion of the service, it was reported that appropriate material has been identified and will be used beginning this Sunday.
2. Outside groups, including the quilters and AA, are still on hold for returning to the premises. The quilters have reported that they are planning to hold the quilt sale in November, if that is possible.
3. The policies review meeting was held with Pastor Teklu on August 12. BoD members present were Zac Huffman, Diane Segelhorst and Bernice Prescott. As a result, a five year strategic plan will be prepared. Zac Huffman provided a brief summary of the meeting. It was noted that policy-based governance was actually designed for a larger church and as currently written may be difficult for a church our size. The plan may be changed as desired and the option also remains to revert to a council format. St. Paul's currently is actually operating in a hybrid format, and that seems to be working, as the design of a small board and committee chairs that are not elected for a set term provides flexibility. Those at the meeting agreed that a five year strategic plan is needed, to focus on measurable goals and the strategies and activities to achieve them. Pastor Teklu is identifying samples for review. The plan can be drafted by the BoD or an ad hoc committee including BoD members and some committee chairs. The policy document may also need some additional revision. Further meetings will be held once we have information to review on others' strategic plan structures.
4. The initial "Music in the Parking Lot" session was held by Charlton on August 7 and was a big success! Approximately 20 were in attendance and all seemed very pleased. Another session will be held in September.

Current Agenda Items

1. Per the reopening ad hoc planning committee, there have been no reports of anyone attending services becoming ill, either from St. Paul's or LifeBridge. Dorothy Clark and the quilters are planning to hold the annual quilt sale in November if possible.
2. Electronic sign training has not yet been scheduled and will be done once the link with the church computer system has been established. One light panel on the sign is yet to be installed.
3. The next BoD meeting will be Thursday, September 3, 2020, unless there are conflicts.

4. Pastor Teklu recommended that we establish a committee to do visits with those persons not yet leaving their homes. He has asked several individuals to volunteer and they have agreed.

5. Service Views:
 - August 2: 64 total (26 in person, 34 live streaming, 4 audio)
 - August 9: 46 total (25 in person, 18 live streaming, 3 audio)
 - August 16: 51 total (25 in person, 14 live stream/9 later views, 3 audio)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bernice Prescott, Secretary