

St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Board of Directors Minutes

April 14, 2021

Audio Conference:

Dial In: 605-472-5577

Access: 494369#

2021 St. Paul's Board of Directors:

Zac Huffman, Bernice Prescott, Cyndie Dixon, Rick Wood, Jen Houck

Diane Segelhorst, Carol Cook, Pastor Teklu

Present: Pastor, Zac, Bernice, Diane, Carol, Jen, Cyndie

Call to Order - Opening Prayer - Pastor thanked God for His grace and Mercy. We are privileged to be God's workers and asked for His wisdom and discernment.

The March 31, 2021 BoD meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report – February 2021

Information for March has not been received by the board.

February Budget Status: **68.98%** of goal, down from January 70.53%

- Offerings YTD: \$21,906.39; under goal: **(\$9,850.66)**
- Expenses YTD: \$30,581.10; under budget **\$3,234.24**
- Overall YTD: all income minus expenses **(\$4,717.80)**
- 2020 Financial Review completed 3/26/21 by Frank Newhard & Don Howard
- 2021 budget: \$183,485.16; \$3,528.56/wk

Pastor's Report:

- 15 families have been contacted with greeting cards from Prayer Team, and a total of 33 families have been prayed for by the team. The response has been very favorable.
- Pastor will resume home visits on April 21.
- Chad & Andrea Muntz are new attendees that have transferred from Grace in LaPlata. They have two children, Abigail and Camden.
- Easter services were very successful. Social distancing, masking and other precautions were taken to ensure COVID was not spread in church.
- The adult Sunday morning Bible study continues with the examination of the Book of Acts. Pastor reported that twelve persons attended on April 11. Study Guides are available to people who cannot attend. Attendance is available through Zoom as well as in person in the Fellowship Hall.
- First sermon series: "New Life After Resurrection" will begin April 18. Jerry Kane and Del Jenstrom are on the sermon planning team.
- The Ministry Planning (Staff) meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2021 at 7:00. The

focus will be to discuss activities for the second quarter that align with the Strategic Plan. Pastor has attended the planning meetings of various committees, including Sunday School on April 13th and will attend the Worship Committee meeting on April 15th.

- Confirmation class will begin on April 22, 2021 at 6:15. The class will include youth ages 10 -15. If someone can't attend in person, they can attend through Zoom. Students must attend at least once/month in person. Pastor will accommodate as necessary. 10 copies of student book ordered; five more may be needed. Judy Tribby and Sandi Corwin will be helping.

Open Items from Last Meeting

- Devotions will be available through Lutheran Hour Ministries devotions; www.lhm.org. Pastor will have Cindy notify the congregation of the availability through email and the monthly newsletters. An app is available for phones as well. These devotions were used during Lent and were well received.

Current Agenda Items:

- *Reopening Ad-Hoc Planning Committee*
 - ✓ In person worship began Maundy Thursday, April 1, 2021
 - ✓ Social gatherings are limited to ten people. The Fellowship Hall will reopen April 5, 2021. The Adult Bible Study, which is held in the Fellowship Hall can hold up to 50% capacity, which is 50 people. This is considered a worship event, not a social event.
 - ✓ The reopening for AA has been postponed, date TBD. Zac notified them via email dated April 2, 2021.
 - ✓ The positivity rate is climbing, but according to the CDC, it is still safe to gather.
 - ✓ The attendance for worship at St. Paul's has increased.
 - ✓ The congregation will be advised in the May newsletter to continue with social distancing, masks and to remain vigilant for exposure. The CDC is studying to see if vaccinated people carry the virus to unvaccinated people.
 - ✓ When AA reconvenes, they must conduct contact tracing and do their own cleaning. They will not be allowed to serve any refreshments.
 - ✓ Diane will write an article for the newsletter to update the congregation on the status of the virus, the precautions taken and updates by the county, state and CDC.
- *Strategic Plan Project:*
 - ✓ The various committees are focusing on planning the 2nd & 3rd quarter activities using the Strategic Plan as their guide.
 - ✓ Quarterly follow up meetings with Tina Jaison will be established, probably beginning in May.

- *Streaming Video & Audio*
 - ✓ The Easter Sunday Traditional service at 8:15 am did not record but the 10:30 service was streamed
 - ✓ A Target date for streaming of both services is to be determined, possibly May.
 - ✓ The use of a new software program, “Proclaim”, has been initiated. Training for slide presentation continues for early service. Diane will receive training in the near future.
 - ✓ Charlie has applied for another SED technology grant for \$1500.00. The deadline was April 4, 2021.
 - ✓ Michelle requested the use of sanctuary on Sundays 11:30am - 12:30pm. A compromise was presented to Michelle stating that her usage would end at 12:15pm so Life Bridge can begin their set-up. This will begin Sunday, April 11, 2021.
 - ✓ Bernice inquired if the screen would continue to be used during the traditional service. She finds it a distraction and feels that the primary focus should be on worship not technology. Diane, on the other hand, finds the screen helpful as she doesn't have to focus on a book or a paper for the words of a hymn or order of service. Some people want to use a hymnal and others, the screen. Bernice would like to have Pastor stand at the pulpit to deliver the sermon, but this can create a problem for streaming or recording. It was acknowledged that the screen does lend itself to the ease of worship for new attendees. Diane suggested that the screen should refer to the setting number in the hymnal and we should stick to that setting ease for visitors. The setting should also be mentioned in the bulletin. Pastor reminded us that we need a service that works for both our members and the community.

- *Food Drive:*
 - ✓ The Outreach Committee has scheduled a Food Drive to support the CCCC Food Pantry / Baby Pantry on Sat, April 24, 2021 from 9:30 - 11:00am. An Email request for volunteer help was sent on April 13 to the congregation. Penny will be leading this project.

- *Basketball Court Proposal:*

Pastor proposed that we erect a basketball net on the west side of the parking lot. At the last meeting, the pros and cons were discussed.

 - ✓ Zac research the insurance issues and found the following:
 - Church Mutual Insurance Policy #0138683-21-812245 (800-554-2642)
 - Liability Limits: \$1M per occurrence / \$3M aggregate per year

- ✓ It is essential that cautionary signs are posted, e.g., private property, play at own risk, time of day availability, etc.
- ✓ After some discussion, it was decided that the net should be portable as opposed to permanent due to cost and storage. (\$100 - 400; permanent \$800 - 1,500). The portable net would be stored in the shed during off times. We will check with Del regarding the storage issue and Carol suggested that we check for portability.

- *Next BoD meeting: Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 5:30pm*

It was decided that we will meet once a month on the third Wednesday of the month as done previously to the pandemic.

- *Service Views 2021:*

January Avg: 55 total (5 in person, 22 live stream / 25 later, 3 audio)

February Avg: 55 total (6 in person, 24 live stream / 22 later, 3 audio)

Lenten Avg: 43 total (7 in person, 20 live stream / 16 later, 0 audio)

Pk Lot Avg: 16 total

March Avg: 55 total (8 in person, 23 live stream / 21 later, 3 audio)

Lenten Avg: 34 total (6 in person, 8 live stream / 20 later, 0 audio)

Pk Lot Avg: 26 total

4/1 Maundy Thur: 66 total (38 in person, 7 live stream / 21 later, 0 audio)

4/2 Good Friday: 42 total (24 in person, 16 live stream / 2 later, 0 audio)

4/4 Easter Sunday:

8:15am 40 total (40 in person, no live stream, 0 audio)

10:30am 75 total (41 in person, 10 live stream / 24 later, 0 later)

April 11:

8:15am 30 total (27 in person, no live stream, 3 audio)

10:30am 50 total (27 in person, 23 live stream, 0 audio)