



Council Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2017

6:00 PM

Attendees

Council Members Present: Brent Cottrell, Lynn Minden, Jeff Lorenz, Barbara Sappenfield, Shannon Fenner, Jeremy Wiese, Sue Bentley, Lee Allen

Others Present: Pastor Alan Fox, Roy Brockmeier, Kara Farrow, Pastor Alvaro

Absent: Gary Sims

Opening

Opening devotion was offered by Lee Allen. The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m. on Tuesday, March 21, 2017, by Lynn Minden.

Approval of Agenda/Minutes

The minutes of the February 2017 meeting were unanimously approved. The agenda for the March 21, 2017 meeting was amended to remove the bylaws/constitution discussion and then unanimously approved.

Ministry Teams

Property

- No report.
- J Lorenz/R Brockmeier

Administration

- No report.
- R Brockmeier

Stewardship

- No report.
- Pastor Fox

Outreach

- Hosted a Pancake Breakfast and celebrate Shrove Sunday (vs Tuesday). Some people wanted to give a token of their appreciation even though it was a “free” event hosted by Outreach. Money that was donated was given to the two youth groups for their travels this summer.
- Easter postcard mailed to parishoners.
- Pastor asked Outreach to add the Spanish words to signs around the church. Roy felt that was a Parish Administrator job and has taken that over.
- We may assist Missions on their “Day of Service” coming up soon.
 - S Fenner

Worship

- There will be three (3) Easter services. All three will follow the traditional service format and liturgy. However, the 9:45 will have contemporary music.
- There has been some preliminary discussion from a suggestion to use and alternative worship format in the 8:30 and 11:00 services over the summer.
- The Worship Committee tentatively plans to meet prior to the April Council meeting to discuss this and opportunities for all congregation services.

• B Cottrell

Missions

- No report.

• L Allen

Hospitality

- Sue asked if she should be doing more to coordinate/report on hospitality efforts. Let it that no changes are needed now.

• S Bentley

Care

- There were 79 care contacts this month
- Care was provided to 35 households by 9 care team members and 4 staff
- 13 cards / 13 phone calls / 16 other contacts (text, email, in person)
- 6 communion visits
- 2 senior community worship services with communion (Town Village: 10 individuals; Montereau: 14 individuals)
- 1 memorial service
- 2 hospital/care facility visit
- 3 household provided with grief resources
- 1 prayer shawl provided
- Transportation provided for 3 individuals.

• B Sappenfield

Comunidad de Esperanza

- Pastor Alvaro is participating in a group with other area churches and ministers to explore the topic of sanctuary churches. Training is being held at All Souls Unitarian on 3/30 that Pastor Alvaro is attending, and he invited any interested Council members to come as well. This Tulsa-area group is in the early stages of investigating this topic and no actions or plans have been developed yet for implementation in the community.
 - Roy has received questions/concerns around the topic of sanctuary congregations. Education strategy will be needed when the time is right.
 - Comunidad's worship style is the Lutheran traditional service in Spanish.
 - Currently, they intend to hold a Spanish only service separate congregation from us. As their children grow, English will be incorporated in their service and there will be a blending of our congregations.
 - Above all Pastor Alvaro wishes to express his gratitude as well as the
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gratitude of the congregation for our opening up our worship space.

- G Sims/Pastor Alvaro
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Old Business

- ACTION**
- ID'd 40 people to meet with one-on-one to explore interest (support, issue owner, etc).
 - Targeting mid-April to finish meetings.
 - We are members (Tulsa Lutherans in ACTION)
 - K Farrow

- Family Promise**
- Response has been positive.
 - 1st week of April – Bartlesville visit.
 - Meeting with those who have signed up to follow.
 - K Farrow
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New Business

- Open Ministry Team Leadership**
- Stewardship and Hospitality team leads are still vacant.
 - Lynn is working these off-line.
 - L Minden

- Vacant Council Position Nomination**
- Barbara Sappenfield's last meeting will be in April.
 - Chris Bussman has agreed to serve during the nominating committee process, but we didn't have a slot. Lynn recommends that we extend the invitation to him.
 - Council voted unanimously to appoint Chris to fill the vacant position assuming he is still willing to accept it.
 - L Minden

- Congregational Vitality Review**
- Each member present filled out a questionnaire. Roy tallied the results (Attachment A).
 - Sue suggested putting more effort/time into connect groups for new members.
 - Discussed concept of membership; is it still relevant? Should we be more focused on incentivizing participation? How do we engage people in their own spiritual development? How do we engage people in small groups? How do we engage people through worship and service?
 - Categories for further discussion: new member engagement, existing member engagement, young family recruitment
 - Staff engagement goal was to add 3-5 small groups this spring.
 - Next steps: conduct an additional meeting and invite staff to participate to tackle the issues discussed tonight in depth. Lynn will schedule the date for the meeting
 - R Brockmeier
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Treasurer's Report

February		Year to Date	
Income:	\$64,948	Income:	\$163,525
Expenses:	68,966	Expenses:	140,184
Net:	-4,018	Net:	23,341

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned. The next general meeting will be on April 18 at 6:00pm. Meal and devotion for April meeting will be provided by Jeff Lorenz.

Minutes submitted by S Fenner

Congregation Vitality Project

How well do these phrases describe your congregation?

Worship nurtures people's faith	3	5	5	5	5	4		5		4	4	3	4.22
Deepens people's relationship with God.	3	5	3	5	4	4		3		4	5	4	4.00
A clear sense of mission/purpose	3	3	2	3	4	4		4		2	4	4	3.22
Excitement about the congregation's future	2	3	2	4	4	4		4		3	3	4	3.22
Always ready to try something new	4	4	2	3	4	4		2		3	4	2	3.11
A positive force in the community	3	3	4	4	5	5		3		4	4	2	3.44
Works for Social Justice/advocacy	4	4	3	1	5			2		2	3	3	3.00
How well does your congregation ...													
Incorporate new members into the congregation	3	3	3	4	3			3		3	3	2	3.00
Seek out and use the gifts of members of all ages	3	3	2	4	3			3		2	5	2	3.00
Build strong, healthy relationships among members	3	5	3	3	4			4		3	5	3	3.67
Manage disagreements in a healthy respectful manner	2	3	3	4	4			3		3	1	4	3.00
Address social concerns (helping those in need)	3	4	3	3	5			3		3	3	4	3.44
Equip members to share their faith with others	3	4	2	2	4			2		3	5	2	3.00
Interact with the local community	3	4	3	3	5			2		4	3	3	3.33
Help members live out their faith in daily lives	3	4	3	4	4			4		4	5	4	3.89
	3.00	3.80	3.00	3.40	4.13	0.00	3.13	0.00	3.13	3.80	3.07	0.00	