

Minutes of ALB Meeting
May 11, 2021

Attendees

ALB: Kathy Schluter, Julie Whitney, Sharon Garrett, John Frunceck, Brady Henderson, Mike Stoehr, Craig Walker

Staff: Pastor Matt, Pastor Janet, Nell, Dan

Guests: Laurie Jeffery, CJ Neville, Mary Paull

Opening Prayer - John opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Minutes - Kathy

The minutes of the April meeting were approved.

Devotion - Pastor Matt

Pastor Matt read Riley Murphy's Confirmation faith statement and asked where our faith was in 8th grade. Some said they were disinterested, questioning or dismissive, others lacked true love, humility or faith while others were embarrassed by spirituality. Nell suggested that we should write faith statements as adults.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Matt

Pastor Matt reported that he enjoyed his day of silence on his vacation and now has a foster daughter living temporarily in his home.

Pentecost - May 23 - will be celebrated with a congregational picnic at Klode Park with a red tent and red pinwheels.

A new member class was held. The church had no new members, except Confirmands, last year.

Staff reviews are ongoing.

Pastor Andrew will be fully ordained at Annual Conference as a deacon. We will celebrate his ordination this fall.

Betty Brandt's funeral is Saturday at 2 pm.

There will be a vote on the denominational split at the General Conference in May, 2022. The question now is not whether to split but how to split and cause the least amount of damage.

Charge Conference - Kathy

The Annual Charge Conference will take place on Monday, May 17, via Zoom. Pastor Matt is developing the agenda with District Superintendent Forrest Wells and Kathy will circulate it to the Board when it is available.

Expansion of a Church Opening - Pastor Matt

Pre-registration is no longer required for worship but will continue for Sunday School. The limit for worship will be raised to 50% capacity (250) in June. Currently, the JOY Singers and Boy Scouts are meeting in person, a shortened Taizé is starting on Friday, May 14 and WOW will start meeting in the Buxton Garden on Thursday, May 21. Pastor Matt's prayer is that the church will be fully open by Rally Day.

Strategic Plan - Kathy

The Strategic Planning Team met on Tuesday, April 27 to review the strategic plan. They concluded that virtual participation may continue for some, and every objective should include a plan to operate in a hybrid system. Outreach also needs a staff or lay person to lead it and the website must be refreshed to become a portal for outreach by and participation in the church. The Tech Committee will research options for website redesign and maintenance. Pam has contacted Shelby about its website services and Craig, John, and Pam plan to meet with them. Shelby offers 25 different website formats. Kathy will seek staff input and feedback on other updates to the strategic plan.

Trustees - Craig

Church Roof Update - the roof is completed, the final invoice paid and the warranties secured. We are still working with Butters-Fetting on clarification of their \$14,000 invoice. **Current Projects** - we have contracted to install a concrete slab and fencing behind 806 for our dumpster corral and to repair the broken concrete at the front entrance. The tree in the playground tree was cut back to a stump so as to preserve a natural element in the playground. The Playground Remodel will begin on May 21. The tree in the 816 front yard was cut down and bids are being reviewed for tuck-pointing the chimney and other brickwork at 816. We Energy performed its energy audit on the church and suggested the best time to install solar panels is when a new roof is installed. Trustees will investigate the cost benefit of solar panels.

Accessibility Survey - an Accessibility Survey was required for the Charge Conference Report. Although the church had apparently not conducted the survey in past years and improvement opportunities exist, the church generally scored well.

Rezoning 816 and 820 - our request to rezone 816 and 820 for religious use was rejected by the Village Plan Commission because it would give the church an unfettered right to expand our building or install a parking lot on the properties. Although the church was asked to seek rezoning by the tax assessor (who is on medical leave) to rectify the noncompliance of its current usage, the Village emphasized that they have no desire or intent to interfere with the church's current usage of the properties.

Trustee Term Limits - Craig asked if Trustees have term limits. Since the ALB is the official Trustee under the Discipline and the Trustees are a ministry team that reports to ALB, the term limits for Trustees are discretionary. Kathy suggested that the Ministry Team Description probably sets forth term limits and should be reviewed and updated.

Financial Update - Kathy

FY 2020-21 Budget - there was an \$18,383.02 shortfall in April that resulted in a deficit of \$6,161.65. Pledge and non-pledge income rose to 79% and 100% of the amounts projected, respectively, and the total Easter offering was \$6,060. Expenses were 80% of the total. A couple questions were asked about whether we could predict income based on monthly giving and how much we received from electronic giving. There was also a suggestion to eliminate the year number in the Easter line item.

Capital Campaign Funds - the Capital Account balance remained at \$108,167 for April but will be reduced by about \$36,000 paid or payable for the roof project. There is \$100,428 in the Future Fund.

Properties Capital Fund - the current balance is unchanged at \$224,748.

Proposed FY 2021-22 Budget - Pastor Janet requested that the \$5000 revenue item for School for Seniors be eliminated. That amount was offset by increasing Miscellaneous Income by \$1000 and the 2019-20 F/Y surplus by \$4000. The revised budget was unanimously approved on a motion made by Craig Walker and seconded by Brady Henderson.

PPP2 - there is still no forgiveness process available for PPP2.

Pledge Drive - Pastor Matt

A stewardship letter with a narrative budget and pledge card was sent out on May 11. Pledges are requested by June 15. There will be no Stewardship Sunday due to limited in-person attendance at worship.

Closed Session

Craig closed the meeting with prayer.

The next meeting of the ALB will be held at 6:30 pm via Zoom at a date in June to be determined. The date was later set as June 22.