

## St. Mark's United Methodist Church

### Guiding Council Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2022—6:30 pm—Zoom Teleconference

#### Members Present:

Administration: Betty Schiele, Anne Boyle, Sarah Vaughan

SPRC: David Harmon

Trustees: Laura Godwin, Rob Heare

Finance: Chris Franklin

Lay Leadership: Lynne Kelly, Mark James

Secretary: Dani Corrigan

**Staff present:** Justin White

#### CALL TO ORDER (6:32)

Betty called the meeting to order and conducted roll call.

#### DEVOTION – Rob Heare

Rob shared a daily devotion from *Jesus Calling*. It focused on ensuring we seek God as our focus in life and enjoying peace in His presence. Every day presents us with many choices, and we are often on cruise control when making decisions and ignore choices. Today's world is disjointed, and things are falling apart. With this, it is important to stay in communication with God and make Him the center of our decisions. He shared the following verses. Matthew 6: 33: *But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.* Colossians 3:23-24: *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

#### OPENING PRAYER- Rob Heare

#### PRAISES (6:35)

- Multiple people shared praises for Julie's amazing recovery and her great spirits through treatment.
- Justin shared the Blessing of the Animals event involved 55 humans, many dogs and two cats. Thanks to John Davis for sharing his music talents.
- Justin shared praises for everyone involved with NLI luncheon. District superintendent was pleased.
- Betty thanked all the people who helped with the NLI celebration.

#### MINUTES (6:36) -- Betty Schiele

The minutes for August 15, 2022, were reviewed and there were no changes.

Mark moved to approve the minutes for August 15, 2022, meeting.

The motion was seconded by Sarah and was approved unanimously.

## FINANCE (6:45): Reports in Google Docs

Chris Franklin informed:

- August 2022 P&L Highlights:
  - Total income for the month is \$75,000.00. This is \$19,000.00 better than budget and \$28,000.00 better than last year.
  - Total expenses are \$56,794.00 which is \$7,400.00 higher than budget and \$3,400.00 higher than last year. Overall expenses are being managed. Biggest expense is with Building and Grounds. There is a new line included for the HVAC but it does not include interest expense.
  - Net income is \$18,800.00. This is about \$12,000.00 better than budget and about \$17,000.00 better than last year.
  - Profit for August is \$67,367.00 with \$45,391.00 subtracted for HVAC loan pay off which leaves profit of \$21,976.00 for the month. Overall, it was a positive month.
- Year to Date Highlights:
  - Net income is \$43,465.00. This is about \$6,700.00 below budget and about \$10,000.00 better than last year.
- August 2022 Balance Sheet:
  - The reporting for the Capital Campaign funds on the Balance Sheet was previously divided into separate sub-accounts for each category. It now shows the total for the sub account number 002992. The breakdown will still be on the Excel sheet.
  - Total Assets: \$2,110,409.00
  - Mortgage: just over \$1 million
  - Total Liabilities: \$1,480,361.00
  - Equity: \$630,047
  - Total Liabilities and Equity: \$2,110,409
- Duplex Activity
  - There is a new report to show these funds. HVAC loan was paid off (\$45,000.00) and the current balance is about \$177,000.00.
- Capital Campaign
  - Current balance in bank is \$156,000.00.
  
- Mark noted there is no wedding income. Justin noted that people are getting married off site. He is officiating two upcoming weddings, and neither are in a building.

## BUDGETING PROCESS (6:43)

Justin informed:

- The Trustees, Ministry Teams and Staff Parish Relations committees are currently putting together a proposed budget. The budget will be brought to Guiding Council next month.
- Charge Conference will be Sunday, October 16, at 4:00 at Beulah UMC. This is the second year this will be done in a group. It will include St. Mark's plus 13 other churches. Dr. Lee wants

every church to share highlights from the year. Betty will be giving this report. If you have any ideas on what to share, please let Betty know.

- Anne stated that a congregant asked her about when the Charge Conference will occur. Justin reported that it is supposed to be announced 10 days prior to the event. It will be announced in the next church wide email.
- Mark asked about who attends. Justin stated that all Guiding Council members are welcome. Betty reported there were 8-10 members present from St. Mark's last year.
- Justin asked if Dani will be available to attend to take minutes. Dani will let him know if she is available.

## **TRUSTEES (6:48)- Report in Google Docs**

Laura Godwin informed:

- The plumbing issue is currently being resolved. A decision was made to rescope. One major issue has been cleared. There is one minor issue in the courtyard that could be a potential issue. It will be addressed to get ahead of potential future issues. There are collapsed pipes in the courtyard. The positive is the cement from the previous repair has not yet been poured over top of this area. Flinn's recommendation to avoid these situations is to scope more than once every 40 years. The nursery hallway still needs to be repaired. The damages have been submitted to insurance and the church will receive a check for \$17,000.00. The total estimate is \$19,000.00. The difference is due to the current tile no longer being available. There will need to be additional tile purchased to replace beyond the impacted area, so it is not mismatched. Walker's Floor, who the church has worked with for the gym floor, will be doing the tile work. Let Laura know if anyone is interested in helping to select tiling.
- A Vector sensor has gone off four times. The faulty sensor has been replaced. If an alarm goes off now, please take it seriously. During the fire safety inspection, it was noted that six fire extinguishers need to be tested. This will be put in the budget. Otherwise, fire inspection was fine.
- True Timber will be coming on November 14 to take down dead tree by FACES house and prune trees in courtyard that are looming over the building.
- HVAC issues with one unit in the preschool. The unit for the storage closet is not keeping temperature. There is a history of mold issues, and the Trustee will watch this and fix it as needed.
- A new server has been ordered which was planned. A new laptop has been ordered to start replacing older ones.
- The Trustees' manual is being updated.
- Lighting in the library is being replaced. RMS gave a large quote for fixing it. Instead of hiring an outside company, Carl Simon is heading up the project with assistance of Banks Buchanan, Dennis Monroe and Tommy John. Justin reported that they have been hard at work. The main issues are that the actual set up is not what is in the building plans.
- Maintenance team is helping with some issues at the preschool.
- Major current issue is that vendors are constantly changing point of contact as staff leaves. It is causing a constant resharing of information. This has been an issue with the security cameras. They have been ordered but Trustees never heard any follow up from the company. When

Trustees followed up there was a disconnect as the point of contact had left. Trustees had to update the company on where they were in the process.

- Justin is thankful for the Trustees and Hannah. Please thank them if you see them. He is optimistic that we will eventually be proactive instead of reactive.
- Betty also thanked the trustees for all they do in all the behind-the-scenes work.

### **VISION COUNCIL (7:01) - Report in Google Docs**

Sarah Vaughan informed:

- Vision council is working on more collaboration between the committees. At the last VC meeting, Justin shared the video that had been shared with GC in August about shifting the focus to the community and bringing people into the church. VC is brainstorming on how to get out to the community. A good example of this is the pet blessing event.
- Highlights from the committees include:
  - September mission dinner was well attended with 68 adults, 15 kids. The proceeds went to Heart Havens. The October 5 mission dinner will be hosted by Gordon Athletics.
  - Preschool Sunday is coming up. The team wants to make sure they provide a good display of what is offered and is looking to revamp the children's busy bags for service.
  - Rise Against Hunger is October 9. There are plans to have a kids table to allow them to feel confident in helping.
  - Looking for events for February. Some ideas include family game night and ice cream social.
  - Midlothian Days is in October and the church will have a table. Kristen is looking for people to volunteer an hour at the St. Mark's table.
- Rob asked what the date is for Midlothian Days. It is October 15.
- Betty asked about the status of the revised Safe Sanctuary. Sarah has followed up with Stacy about getting the updated version of this and has not heard back. Justin will follow up with Stacy tomorrow. Betty will include this in next month's agenda to ensure it is covered.

### **Report from Annual Conference (7:06)**

Anne informed:

- There is an upcoming Special Annual Conference meeting for the churches that are requesting disaffiliating. The meeting will be on October 29.
- The first meeting will be held at 9:00 AM. This will be for the churches utilizing Book of Discipline paragraph #2549.3. These churches are closing due to low attendance. The property goes back to the church to do what they please.
- The second Special Annual Conference will be at 9:30 for churches seeking disaffiliation under paragraph #2553. These churches are seeking disaffiliation for views of human sexuality. They do not give the church back to the annual conference. They keep the building. They are required to pay into the pension fund. There is more detail through Team Jeremiah.
- These requests will either be approved or not approved. There may be more of these meetings in the future. Anne will continue to update GC.
- Anne and Justin were not able to attend the meeting yesterday regarding reorganizing the districts.

- Betty asked if all addendum meetings have been by Zoom. They have been. The first one was the meeting about Boy Scouts at the beginning of the year.
- **SPR CONFIDENTIAL**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS (7:22)

- No announcements or reminders.

#### **CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT**

David closed with prayer. Betty adjourned the meeting at 7:24 PM.  
Next Meeting: October 17, 2022, at 6:30 PM on Zoom.