

Charity Lutheran Church
Vision Council Minutes
Tuesday June 21st, 2016 – 5:30 p.m.

Members Present

Staff: Pastor Scott, Rob Peske, Pastor Sam, Lorri Mittleider

Vision Council: Don Nordquist, Aaron Edland, Dallas Sailer, Connie Geiger, Matt Kaldor, Rob Bauer, Nancy Jensen

Special Guest:

Don called the meeting to order. Pastor Scott opened the meeting in prayer. The meeting agenda was approved.

1. Prayer Requests

The following existing bulletin prayer list was approved:

- *Thank and praise God for His generous outpouring of love on His people of Charity...for making Himself known through His son Jesus; for the provision of our wonderful pastors and staff; for the tithes and offerings that enable us to be debt free and support our ministries and missions.*
- *Thanks for the new families and individuals joining us at Charity and for the many members who serve quietly and generously.*
- *Ask the Holy Spirit to guide and direct us in every decision made at Charity including the development and implementation of a Vision that places Charity on the road whose course is set by our Lord.*
- *Holy Spirit, we welcome you. Make us into the Church you want us to be so that all may know Jesus and His love.*
- *Thanksgiving for safety during Charity's youth trips and events.*
- *Pray for the success of ongoing congregational and youth events/ministries.*
- *Lift up new Charity disciples and pray for good stewardship in church growth.*
- *Offer congregational prayers for the changes in our State and communities as they address changes occurring within its jurisdictions.*
- *Pray for enduring unity of our staff and continued growth for all our worship services; especially Traditions and Quest.*
- *Pray for guidance for the congregation and our leadership as we submit to the Great Commission in all ways including ministry support, community outreach and continued assistance for Surprise.*
- *Prayers for the Living Stones Associates consultation recommendations. May the Holy Spirit guide the direction and all decisions regarding Charity's future. Prayers specifically for the Church Health Team and the Facilities Task Force.*
- *Prayer for the summer season worship and the preaching teaching series; The Art of Experiencing God.*
- *Pray for the persecuted church around the world!*

2. Staff Reports

a. Pastor Scott –

- i. Scott and Rob met recently with two individuals, Brittany Carlson and Mason Buchholz. They have a passion for prayer and to reach Bismarck with prayer. They organized a group to pray outside the Civic Center during a medium event in the recent past. They are currently organizing a prayer meeting for the city Churches at the Belle Mehus on August 16th.
- ii. The staff is reading the “More with Less Church.” It’s been a good opportunity to gather, discuss the book and how it can be implemented at Charity.
- iii. The Israel trip attendee count is up to 15 people. The trip dates are October 29 – November 15.
- iv. Scott is working with Nancy on a counseling policy for Charity.
- v. Chara Wangen has left her Children’s Ministry position. Scott has met with Jess Toman and Melissa Hill about the needs of the program and how to best address those needs. Jess and Melissa felt they could cover the duties between the two of them if they had an additional 5 hours each. They are looking to incorporate WINGS into the regular curriculum and form a Children’s Ministry Team.
- vi. Scott also met with Lorri Mittleider. She stated the need for a 10 to 12-hour nursery coordinating position concerning child care for Sunday and Wednesday WOW and Monday night small groups. In addition, Lorri has requested a 10 to 12-hour preschool assistant in the future.

b. Pastor Randy –

- i. Randy was absent but had a written report. It highlighted the Living Stones visit this week, Life Long Learning for the fall and winter, WOW planning and Sunday Sermon videos.

c. Rob Peske –

- i. Rob was on vacation recently and is putting the things that got broke back together during his absence.
- ii. Rob ordered the HD video cameras this week in addition to a new sound mixer. He is currently searching for a new HD TV.
- iii. The WOW planning team has pulled together a 6-year programming cycle, so kids aren’t exposed to the same material twice during their high school years. Rob is working with Sue Balcom to do a Sunday WOW promotion for this fall. Rob and Randy are making phone calls to recruit additional people for the Sunday WOW.

d. Pastor Sam –

- i. VBS went well and was fun.
- ii. Last weekend was the Minneapolis Mission trip to “Feed my Starving Children.” The 24 Charity junior high attendees put 15,000 meals together to feed 43 children for a year. Sam noted some van problems, but that it worked out great in the end.
- iii. The Guatemala trip is shaping up to be a great trip. 32 people in all are scheduled, leaving July 19th.

e. Lorri Mittleider –

- i. VBS went very well. Something new this year was a family sensory room, for special needs kids, which has been requested in the past.
- ii. Lorri is looking to have preschool teachers come to Charity University in August.
- iii. Lorri took 6 junior high kids to Crystal Springs Bible Camp.

3. Financial Report - Dallas gave the report.

- a. May income was \$110,063, which is \$17,492 under budget and \$4,939 over expenses for the month. March 2016 income was \$11,307 over March 2015 income. Attendance on Sundays was 4,359 people.
- b. 2016 total income is \$534,269, \$26,975 under budget and \$43,545 above actual expenses for the year.
- c. The Living Stones consultation was \$20,000 plus \$5,000 expenses in May, bringing the discretionary fund down to \$32,000.
- d. The Vision Fund for Church growth balance is at \$279,000.

4. Administrative Report

- a. Facility Use Policy – The group reviewed the draft “Policy for Use of Church Facilities and Grounds.” Connie made a motion to approve the policy, Rob seconded, and approved by all.
- b. Firearms Policy – Doug handed out a draft “Charity Firearms Policy.” The group reviewed. Aaron motioned to approve, Matt seconded and approved by all.
- c. Church Safety Evaluation – Officer Fuller from the BPD will visit Charity and evaluate the overall safety of the facility.

5. Old Business

- a. Approval of Minutes from the March 15th, 2016 Meeting: Approved by all.
- b. Living Stone Consultation Update: The final report will be ready June 30th.
 - i. The Church Health team is meeting every other week, co-chaired by Brenda Whitman and Shelley Traynor. Rob Bauer and Barb Weaver are the team members from the VC. Staff team members include Rob and Scott.
 - ii. The Facility Task force last met on June 4th, with architect Al Fitterer about the proposed office space and how the expansion would happen. The next meeting of the Facility Task force is June 28th and the plan is to create a Charter for the group at the next meeting.

5. New Business

- a. Leadership Coaching Consultation (LSA) with Living Stones: The LSA Leadership Coaching visit is this week, June 22-24. Nancy has released an agenda. The Vision Council will meet with the group on Thursday at 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. The VC will also be having supper on Friday night with the Living Stones group.
- b. 2017 Budget – The budgeting process will start earlier this year. The initial draft will be due at the August 2016 Vision Council meeting.
- c. Vision Council Proposal for Youth Assistants 2016 – The group reviewed the proposal; discussed it and the overall youth program. The group discussed the high counseling needs of Julie and Sam in the past year. Nancy will e-mail the draft Charity Counseling Policy to the VC and Pastor Scott. The plan is to finalize the draft in two weeks and vote on the policy for approval at the July VC meeting.

Don closed the meeting in prayer. The regular meeting ended at 8:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be July 19th at 5:30 p.m. The food assignment will be Aaron. A special meeting to review the LSA results is tentatively scheduled for July 12th at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Aaron Edland