

**Charity Lutheran Church**  
**Vision Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, February 26, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.**

**Members Present**

Staff: Pastor Scott, Doug Leet

Vision Council: Aaron Edland, Barb Weaver, Nancy Jensen, John Seedorf, Mark Anderson, Matt Kaldor,  
Dallas Sailer

Special Guest(s): None

The meeting was called to order by Matt, followed by the sharing of individual prayer requests. Pastor Scott opened the meeting in prayer. Vision Council approved the meeting agenda, with minor additions.

**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.*
- *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.*
- *Prayers for God's solutions to the difficulties and challenges facing Charity at this time and trusting that His Will be done.*
- *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 our State and communities as they address changes occurring within its jurisdictions.*
- *Pray for our awesome staff and the good work they do. Prayers for unity and working together as a team.*
- *Prayers for continued growth of our worship services.*
- *Pray for guidance for the congregation and our leadership as we submit to the Great Commission in all ways including ministry support and community outreach.*
- *Pray for the persecuted church around the world!*

**2. Staff Reports**

- a. Pastor Scott reported that staff members are in dialogue regarding youth ministry programming on Wednesday evenings. Many good things have occurred over the years, and it is time to review our youth ministry efforts and be in prayerful discussion about God's vision for this ministry and whether programming and worship changes may be appropriate for the future. The Charity team will be attending a conference this spring

as part of this process, to help facilitate the possibilities for maximizing impact for God's Kingdom.

- b. Aaron inquired about the structure of confirmation programming, and suggested that it may be appropriate to formalize that structure in the future.
- c. Pastor Scott reported that there has been increasing general disruption and some behavioral issues occurring on Wednesday evenings, including in small and large groups and during the WOW service. Staff has been in dialogue regarding how to address this issue, and it has been determined that, for the time being, the ConnectKIDS programming will continue with the planned Sunday programming until preparations can be formalized to better integrate the two programs.
- d. Pastor Scott reported that Pastor Sam is in charge of the Wednesday evening programming, with responsibility for preaching the majority of these services.

### **3. Financial Report**

Dallas provided the financial report.

- a. January income totaled \$85,347, which is \$18,777 under budget and \$25,904 less than expenses for the month. January 2019 income exceeded January 2018 income by \$9,518.
- b. January expenses exceeded budget by \$10,173, which Doug explained was due in part to a one-time fixed payment in January, which projected expense was distributed throughout 2019, late December 2018 musician expense, and professional development expenses. February expense actuals are likely to reflect accelerated spending for snow removal, when compared to budget.
- c. Dallas expressed appreciation to John for updating the financial summary.
- d. Pastor Scott and Doug expressed appreciation for the staff financial appreciation, resulting in part due to the favorable year-end financial results.

*Note: Charity's monthly financial report is available for review, by members of the congregation, in the office. Please contact Doug Leet or Judy Smith to review.*

### **4. Administrative Report**

- a. Doug reviewed upcoming calendar events, including Ash Wednesday on March 6. Noon Lenten services will begin that date and continue to Holy Week. A New Member Meeting will be conducted on April 7, followed by New Member Sunday on April 14. Easter Sunday will occur on April 21, with services tentatively scheduled for 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

### **5. Old Business**

- a. January 2019 Vision Council Meeting Minutes: Motion for approval of revised minutes by John, seconded by Mark. Motion carried.
- b. Policy Governance: A summary was distributed that illustrates policy governance functionality within the context of the existing Constitution, Bylaws, and Policy Governance Guidelines. It was noted that the Constitution and Bylaws, both adopted in 2003 with amendments, have stood the test of time. The need and purpose for each of these critical documents was outlined. The importance of a healthy congregation was noted; healthy congregations trust and empower leaders, who trust and empower staff members, who trust and empower the congregation to be involved in significant outward-focused ministry. Principles for healthy governance structures were summarized.
- c. Doug reported that church safety is of immediate concern, and a task force is being formed to evaluate this important issue.

**6. New Business**

- a. Pastor Scott reported that modifications to the sanctuary are being considered that would facilitate a more welcoming and engaging service.
- b. Doug reported that one of the smaller busses is no longer operating due to diesel fuel in the oil, and repair is cost-prohibitive. The replacement of this bus is being evaluated.
- c. John questioned why the Vision Council portfolio assignments had been previously discontinued. It was explained that the individual ministries are the responsibility of the various staff members.
- d. Pastor Scott expressed appreciation on behalf of the staff for the appreciation gift, it was encouraging to the team. Matt read a very touching thank you note from one staff member.

The meeting ended at 8:00 p.m. Pastor Scott closed the meeting in prayer. The next regular meeting will be held on March 19 at 5:30 p.m. Deb will provide the meal.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Jensen  
Vision Council Secretary