

**Charity Lutheran Church**  
**Vision Council Minutes**  
**Tuesday November 22, 2016 – 5:30 p.m.**

**Members Present**

Staff: Pastor Scott, Doug Leet, Pastor Sam, Pastor Randy

Vision Council: Don Nordquist, Aaron Edland, Dallas Sailer, Connie Geiger, Matt Kaldor (Short of a quorum)

Special Guest(s):

Don called the meeting to order and Pastor Randy 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.*
- *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 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; especially for the Traditions Service and the WOW service on Sunday night.*
- *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 that we properly address 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 Fall schedule of worship services, Life Long Learning and other activities.*
- *Pray for the persecuted church around the world!*

## 2. Staff Reports

- a. Pastor Scott –
  - i. Scott mentioned the Israel trip went well. It was safe and successful.
  - ii. Scott presented the draft counselling policy to staff. Based on their feedback Scott would like to modify the draft before Vision Council approval.
  - iii. Scott is gathering a team with Pat Wheeler to help with pastoral care ministry.
- b. Pastor Randy –
  - i. Randy supports Scott's efforts in the pastoral care ministry. He saw a big increase in the need when Scott was gone on the Israel trip.
  - ii. Randy, in conjunction with the children's ministry directors, is initiating a security review of the Church. There are Charity members who are qualified and could serve to review the Church for threats to children and Charity members.
  - iii. Randy mentioned that Christmas Day is a Sunday this year. The staff would prefer not to have services on Christmas Day as there are 5 services the day before on Christmas Eve. Since there is normally not a Christmas Day service the council approved the request.
  - iv. Randy met with Matt Anderson from Surprise Church and Matt mentioned that they have gone to two services, with 300 people. Surprise has merged with City Life Church. Matt is envisioning a Surprise Church plant in Mandan.
- c. Pastor Sam –
  - i. Sam handed out a 5-Year Ministry Plan Summary for the Charity Youth Ministry. The handout showed 5 and 10% growth potentials and the estimated staff needed along with the future programming from 2016 through 2021.
    - i. Randy mentioned that with Sam leaving in 2017 there needs to be a smooth transition, which involves hiring his replacement in the spring timeframe. Sam mentioned that he and his family would remain at Charity as their church home and would like to be part of the transition process.
    - ii. Don inquired about where the Church should be looking for a new full time youth worker. Sam mentioned that outside of the church through an organization such as Youthworks or perhaps from within the congregation itself.

## 3. Financial Report - Dallas gave the report.

- a. October income was \$139,095, which is \$37,050 over budget and \$34,426 over actual expenses for the month. Attendance on Sundays was 2,920 people. October 2016 income was \$5,558 above October 2015 income.
- b. 2016 annual income as of October is \$1,058,823, \$217,275 under yearly budget and \$36,032 above actual expenses for the year. 2016 total income thus far is \$114,079 over 2015 yearly income as of October.

## 4. Administrative Report

- a. Doug handed out the Q3 Benevolence distribution of \$34,254. Approval will be via e-mail vote.
- b. Doug handed out the job description for the future Secretary/Receptionist position that will be included in the 2017 budget. The group agreed to wait until the congregational meeting approves the 2017 budget before advertising.
- c. The Finance Committee is creating a policy on contributions (gifts, statements, etc.) and special funds (starts, ends, disbursements) for Charity. They're not quite ready to submit it for approval.

- d. There will be no back dating of checks this year through the middle of January for 2016 contributions as part of financial best practice. Funds will need to be received or postmarked by December 31, 2016.

#### **5. Old Business**

- a. Approval of Minutes from the October 2016 Meeting: Will be done via e-mail.
- b. Living Stone Consultation Update:
  - i. Facility Task Force - Matt got an update from the architects to get an idea on the available room to expand the Church. Expansion to the east doesn't look to be an option, so it will probably need to be done to the north or south.
  - ii. Aaron questioned the prudence of planning for office space without additional sanctuary and/or fellowship hall space. There was discussion.
- c. Draft 2017 Budget:
  - i. Doug did an overview of the 2017 draft budget changes from the initial draft reviewed in October.

#### **5. New Business**

- a. Voters Assembly 12/18/16 – The notice was sent out on November 18 to the congregation.

Pastor Scott closed the meeting in prayer. The regular meeting ended at 7:45 p.m. The next regular meeting will be December 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. The food assignment will be Aaron. The council then went into executive session for budget and LSA proposal review.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Aaron Edland - Vision Council Secretary