

Charity Lutheran Church
Vision Council Minutes
Tuesday December 13th, 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, Barb Weaver, Rob Bauer

Special Guest(s):

Don called the meeting to order and 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.*
- *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 WINTER BUSTER programming and the ministry of Life Long Learning and other activities.*
- *Pray for the persecuted church around the world!*

2. Staff Reports

a. Pastor Randy –

- i. Sunday WOW has been increasing every week to around 120, 100+. Hopefully we will continue to see those numbers increasing. The staff is considering it a success.
- ii. Christmas Eve services will be at 12:30, 2:00, 3:30, 5 and 10:00 p.m. The first three will be contemporary services with traditional Christmas music, and last two traditional. The 2:00 and 3:30 are the most heavily attended and staff is encouraging people to come earlier or later.
- iii. There has been some discussion on the pastoral team about a hybrid approach to Charity's growth, a combination of current location facility expansion and change along with a second site proposal to provide to the council.
- iv. Randy's position on the proposal remains the same on the LSA proposal for coaching, he is against it. Having said that, he will cooperate if the council decides to move forward with it.

b. Pastor Scott –

- i. Scott mentioned that he's been busy after the Israel trip with pastoral care.
- ii. Scott had been ministering to Lyle Andrews during his illness, whose funeral was on November 28th.
- iii. Jane Mann's father Larry Meyers passed away recently and she has requested Scott perform the funeral.
- iv. Scott got a call from Al Jaeger on Tuesday November 22nd that his wife Kathy had a few days to live. Kathy's funeral was on Dec 2nd.
- v. There was a recent Grief Healing service last Sunday.
- vi. Stephens Ministers training will be September 2017. There are currently 16 active ministers providing care to 19 people.
- vii. Scott is working on a congregational care ministry team with Pat Wheeler that would encompass home visiting, hospital visits, prayer, shut ins, and transportation.
- viii. Scott stated he supports going forward with the the LSA coaching proposal and stated that it could benefit to the pastors.

3. Financial Report - Dallas gave the report.

- a. November income was \$93,772, which is \$8,272 under budget and \$17,316 under actual expenses for the month. Attendance on Sundays was 2,277 people. November 2016 income was \$11,996 below November 2015 income.
- b. 2016 annual income as of November is \$1,152,595, which is \$41,127 under budget and \$17,540 above actual expenses for the year. 2016 total income thus far is \$102,083 over 2015 yearly income as of November.
- c. All donations for 2016 need to be received or postmarked by the end of December.

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

4. Administrative Report

- a. The snow has been affecting some parking issues, having lost 20 or so spots. Hopefully they will be hauling some snow out.

5. Old Business

- a. Approval of Minutes from the October and November 2016 Meetings: Approved via e-mail.
- b. Draft 2017 Budget:
 - i. Doug recommended a few changes to the draft budget including some additions to the preschool and youth budget, along with one change to the salary adjustments of the staff.
 - ii. Doug discussed the open form feedback of the budget.
 - i. The first open forum, at 9:15 a.m. Sunday November 27, was not well attended with only one couple.
 - ii. The second at, 10:30 a.m. December 4, had a better turn out with 12 or so attendees. Half were single adults the other half couples. There weren't many questions about the numbers.
 - iii. The third was Wednesday December 7 at 8:00 p.m. No one came.
 - iv. The increase from the 2016 to 2017 budget is 17.5%.

6. New Business

- a. Finance Committee Report – Doug highlighted the 2016 recommendations from the Finance Committee for the Vision Council to consider. There was 5 points related to the Benevolence Committee, Treasurers report, reserve fund policy and yearend financial report balance sheet. The Council will revisit it at the January meeting.
 - i. Contribution Policy – The finance committee created a “Contribution Policy” for Charity. Doug led the group in a review that covered Contribution Statements, Unrestricted Gifts, Restricted Gifts, Gifts Designated to Specific Individuals, General Welfare Based Upon Need, Love Offerings, Non-Cash Gifts, Personal Services Donated, Donation for the Use of Property, and Year of Contribution.
 - i. The group voted unanimously to approve the Contribution Policy and add it to the Charity Policy manual.
- b. 2016 Annual Business Meeting Agenda – Don reviewed the agenda for the Sunday meeting of the annual business review.
- c. Facilities Task for Report – Jerry Walz presented plans developed by the task force. He presented some architectural drawings and designs for additional office space, worship venue and fellowship space. He provided a handout of the estimated expenditures for the various options that were presented. There was a group discussion. Parking is still an issue. The expansion would remove approximately 50 parking spaces, so some adjacent property would still be needed for additional parking.

The regular meeting ended at 8:15 p.m. in prayer. The next regular meeting will be January 17th at 5:30 p.m. The council then went into executive session for budget and LSA proposal review.

Respectfully Submitted,
Aaron Edland - Vision Council Secretary

