

Charity Lutheran Church
Vision Council Minutes
Tuesday February 16, 2016 – 5:30 p.m.

Members Present

Staff: Doug Leet, Pastor Scott, Pastor Randy

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

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.*
- *Lift up new Charity disciples and pray for good stewardship in church growth.*
- *Offer congregational prayers for the changes in our State and communities concerning growth and the changes occurring in recent years.*
- *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 and the Long Range Planning Committee ...May the Holy Spirit guide the direction and all decisions regarding Charity's future.*
- *Pray for the Life Long Learning Winter Buster small group ministries getting underway; for the leaders and all participants, that they will be positively impacted by these studies.*
- *Pray for the persecuted church around the world!*

2. Staff Reports

a. Pastor Randy –

- i. 400 attendees at the evening Ash Wednesday service, which went well.
- ii. Rob has changed the camera feed for the television in the fellowship hall during WOW, which is a big improvement for those viewing outside the sanctuary.
- iii. Randy is looking into an option of isolating an area in the fellowship hall with a curtain system, to create more intimacy.
- iv. Randy handed a letter to the council that will be sent to the Charity members addressing Church overcrowding and potential solutions, including revamping the Youth area in the basement and the Sunday WOW proposed for the fall. The staff is in consensus on the need for the Sunday WOW service. 30 to 35 families are a targeted minimum to attend.
- v. Nancy expressed a concern for staffing capacity for the additional WOW service and also requested the Living Stones consultant provide input on this new service. Randy mentioned that the WOW would replace the existing Quest service, that he is OK with the current preaching schedule and that he appreciates the concern. Julie may become more pressed with additional youth obligations.
- vi. The group discussed the Sunday WOW service and decided to have the staff move forward with planning the services and let Living Stones know of the plan and obtain their opinion.

b. Pastor Scott –

- i. Scott has had two funerals in recent weeks.
- ii. Scott is doing the Lenten Wednesday noon sessions. The Ash Wednesday noon service attendance was 91 people.
- iii. GriefShare attendance has been around 20 people, 10 from Charity and 10 from other congregations.
- iv. Scott is looking into Prayer Minister training for the healing services for the 3rd Sunday.
- v. Scott has scheduled a trip to Israel and is looking for fellow travelers. Applications will be due around the April/May timeframe. He is looking to have a minimum of 11 people.

3. Financial and Administrative Report

- a. Treasurer's Report: Dallas was absent so Doug gave the report. The final income for December was \$199,298, \$77,003 over actual expenses for the month. YTD actual was \$1,251,336, \$110,083 over actual expenses and \$109,583 over budget.
- b. Doug proposed to allocate carryover monies at the March meeting so Dallas can be in attendance. The group agreed and requested details and cost on the wish list items from staff for those carryover dollars.

4. Administrative Report

- a. Doug deferred to the New Business.

5. Old Business

- a. Approval of Minutes from the January 19th, 2015 Meeting: Barb proposed to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Connie, approved by all.
- b. Benevolence Fund Distribution: Rob questioned the 4th quarter 2015 "local giving". After discussion Rob proposed to approve, seconded by Nancy, approved by all.

- c. Living Stone Consultation – Self-Study Packet: Nancy stated that Doug is distributing the self-study materials. Doug has distributed part to the staff.
 - i. Nancy has asked two people about co-chairing the Church Health Team Chair for the consultation process. Those people are praying and thinking about the job. Pastor Scott will be the Senior Pastor on the Church Health Team. Don spoke to Jerry Walz, who has agreed to be the Facilities Task Force Chair.
- d. Short Term Recommendations to Handle Crowding with Children’s and Youth Ministries: Doug talked to Jason Middlestadt from BPS. He won’t have an update on the portables until next month after the next school board meeting, to find out if there’s any portables available to rent.
- e. Confirm Administrative Team Members: The team will combine the Administrative and Staffing Committees into one group including Doug, Nancy, Aaron, Dallas, Andrea Collin, and Chad Kourajian.

6. New Business

- a. Pastoral Feedback:
 - i. Riverside Harvest Update: Randy spoke that the ministry needs to grow and evolve or just end. There currently isn’t enough fruit from the ministry for the investment. The plan is to continue it for a year to see if it can be turned around. A location move to Jeannette Myhre Elementary School is being considered in addition to adding a worship service before the meal, which will be required to attend the meal. The service will be 20 or 25 minutes with music, talk and prayer. The staff spoke to Sonja Bosch to organize the people required for the service. Deb Selby has agreed to remain as hostess. Doug is meeting with the principal of Jeannette Myhre Elementary School about using the facility. Randy also spoke about going after grants for the mission. Perhaps even have a business sponsor the meal once a month, etc.
 - ii. Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC): Don spoke with Kevin Brown, LRPC President, and he is OK with the group taking a hiatus until the Living Stones consultation plan is released and then incorporating the LRPC into the plan. Randy agreed on the plan.
 - iii. Worship Attendees and Membership: Nancy asked whether we need to review the large gap between the 1,753 members and those who are regularly attending Charity, currently about 900 on a weekly basis, and develop a strategy for welcoming those people back into the fold, or whether this type of gap is typical in churches. Randy noted that Judy has a handle on the members and tells Scott frequently if she’s worried about certain people not attending. The pastors will then follow up with those people. Randy isn’t worried about the differential due to many circumstances. Some people come twice a month, just Wednesdays, are snow birds, etc.; which can explain the differential.
- b. Consider LRPC’s Recommendation to renew Realtor Agreement with Chuck Huber – Nancy moved to extend the agreement for one year, seconded by Barb and approved by all.
- c. Carryover monies – Deferred until March.

7. Portfolio Assignments

- a. Discuss Ministries: The group discussed the five core ministries and if they should be revised due to overlapping areas; i.e. Men’s Ministry in Transforming and Strong Man in Nurturing. Rob and Doug will look and come with a proposed revamp for the next meeting, particularly focusing on the Transforming and Nurturing portfolios.

Randy closed the meeting in prayer. The meeting ended at 8:15 p.m. The next meeting will be March 15th at 5:30 p.m. The food assignment will be Rob.

Respectfully Submitted,
Aaron Edland - Vision Council Secretary