

Board Of Trustees Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by Vice President Larry Larson.

Members in attendance: Vanessa Gonzalez, Mike Platz, Doug Johnson, Larry Larson, Pastor Jeff Tally, Edd Johnson, Bob Scott, John Ashton and Linda Casteel

Guests in attendance: Carla Johnson and Cleone Larson

A quorum was determined.

Pastor Jeff presented a lovely devotional on Joy followed by prayer.

The minutes for the Board Meeting of November 19, 2024 were presented. Linda suggested the addition of the 3 point focus of growing the church, getting to come back to church rather than continuing to watch church online and encouraging them to contribute and give back to God be added to the At Large section. Edd Johnson moved the minutes be approved as corrected with Doug Johnson 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Business Updates/Trustee Reports

Pastor Report: New insurance policy is needed. The insurance cost with Blue Cross Blue Shield for the staff is going to rise significantly. The out-of-pocket expenses for the employees will also increase. 45% increase has been budgeted for the staff. Attendance continues to grow. When we add in youth and children we are averaging between 240 and 260 which has been fairly consistent. Shamber Brown has started and is already proving to be a solid asset. Both she and Pastor Jeff connected with many visitors to the church during the Breakfast with Santa event. These people were invited to Christmas Eve Services. Focus for Advent is "The King is Coming." Christmas Eve Services have been planned and looking for volunteers to serve. The 7 pm service will be streamed. Pastor Jeff will be preaching at the Indian Christian Fellowship New Year's Eve Worship on December 31st. Service will run from 10:00 pm to 2 am. Praise given for Ffej's election. His ordination will be held on January 14, 2025 at 4 pm. Pastor Jeff and Ffej are working on a plan to include Ffej more often in pastoral duties on Sunday mornings and Shamber and Ffej are working out youth and family details for Ffej. The wireless sound system has failed and needs to be replaced. A new system will be installed tomorrow (December 11th) and John indicated the cost will be approximately \$5188. Mike stated we have \$5,196 in the current budget to cover this. Pastor Jeff indicated we have had several visitors in services recently as a result of watching our 9:30 streaming service. Some people have indicated they appreciate the streaming service, as they have been/will be out of town frequently, so they are able to stay in touch this way! Pastor Jeff is considering starting a new persons' class with a 10 minute review of the sermon.

Missions/Ministry: Larry reported they will be having a meeting this Thursday. Larry was given Debbie Platz name as a possible member of the Missions/Ministry Committee. He will speak with her about this possibility. The LCMC expenses have increased by 11.5% and LCMC Their goal is to raise \$100,000 and they are currently under budget by \$33,000. LCMC has asked for additional contributions from the congregations. Mike indicates we currently give \$100 to the Local LCMC and \$600 to the national LCMC. Larry says the Missions Committee does have some money and he will check into that. We have \$30,000

in our Benevolence Contingency Fund and we are able to give extra. Edd suggested we contribute \$1000 extra to LCMC at this time and the Board agreed.

At Large: Edd states that offering and total giving is up and our total expenses have decreased. Thus, our net has increased. A simple summary will be posted for the congregation.

Marketing: Vanessa handed out the invitation cards tonight. They are beautifully striking! All of our Christmas Eve services will be candlelight services. Ffej will be printing the posters for these services tomorrow and the banners are coming. Pictures of the Breakfast With Santa event, including some of Shamber were taken. Our website has been updated! More chairs were needed for the 11:15 service last Sunday, as we are seeing some growth. We may do a picture of the entire Board of Trustees in January.

Secretary Report: Linda hopes to get the notes out sooner

HR: Doug had no official report at this time. We did note that Pastor Jeff has family insurance; Shamber, Kathy and Rick have individual insurance, Barb is hourly and Travis is part time. Worship leaders receive a stipend.

Treasurer/Financial Trustee:

\$15,000 in unexpected gifts has been received

\$2,000 has been set aside for facilities

We have a surplus of \$200,000 now and are still looking at the giving for the remainder of December to come in.

\$5,160 has been set aside for beautification of the outside of the church/grounds

Legal Trustee: Bob reports MS 741 has a new house manager. His start date was 12-9-2024. In January he will attend a Milestone House meeting. Some boys will be moving into the house prior to January.

Facilities: John talked about acquiring a new pump. An identical pump would cost \$3500 (best offer). We may go with a better pump, which would be higher. Last month the boiler inspection was completed. \$1000 maintenance fee. It was time to seal the exhaust pipe to avoid condensation coming in. The limestone pellets are not depleting. Water is circulating through the pump. We are waiting for a quote for a new wet pump type, which would be less expensive. John estimates the cost for purchase and installation to be approximately \$5000.

Old Business

None at this time

New Business

MS 731 needs to be cleaned out and renovations will begin. John asked about a medical emergency fund. We would need to go to the congregation to ask for a new budget item to cover this. The intent of

the Christmas Fund is to use for members if the Pastor needs to with transparency about the use of this fund. We also have a Board Emergency Fund. Bob Scott (President), Larry Larson (Vice President) and Mike Platz signed the Corporate Resolution for the Fidelity Brokerage Account. This went into effect as of 12-10-2024.

January 14, 2025 at 6:00 will be the next BOT meeting

Edd Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting and Vanessa Gonzales 2nd. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned and Bob Scott closed us in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Casteel