

Council Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2023 at 6 pm Via Zoom

1. Call to Order – Mary called the meeting to order at 6:02PM

Attending: Morgan Wright, Mary Ballard, Martha Kreszock, Wayne Powell, Alan Hauser, Kristie Evans, Emory Maiden, Carol Norris, Jordan Burkhart, Suzanne Wise, Jennifer Davis, P. Steve

Absent: Jesse Lutabingwa

2. Devotion – Morgan; the downside of social media. 2 Timothy 2:22 - 25. Has conservative neighbors but doesn't understand them. 20 years ago he was best friends with people who had different opinions. They could argue but still be friends. Today, the best way to get along with people you don't agree with is not to talk about things you don't agree with. Can't find ways to solutions without being able to talk about them.
3. Ground Rules – Mary
 - Please raise your hand to indicate that you would like to speak.
 - Please give your name and state your views on the matter under discussion, including any questions or concerns you may have.
 - In order to allow others ample opportunity to join in the conversation, please keep any subsequent comments by you on the issue/motion succinct and to the point.
 - Please remain quiet when others have the floor so everyone can hear.
 - Please be respectful of those voicing differing opinions.
4. Congregational Input – Mary
 - Carol N - Thanks for getting verse numbers minimized in online worship.
5. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes – Mary
6. Strategic Visioning – Mary
 - A. Review Organizational Chart and Liaison Assignments
 - B. Council Goal-Setting Process
 - Book discussion, Chapter 2 & 3, "The Holy and the Hybrid".

- i. Pros and Cons of online church.
 - a. Cons > Lack of interaction.
 - b. Pros > less worship time for busy people.
- ii. Use of social media platforms is how the younger generation communicate.
- iii. Review of youtube online worship data.
 - a. 20.7K views over duration.
 - b. Average view time is 18:13 minutes. Skewed number due to short vs long view times.
 - c. Videos show sharp view drop off, consistent viewing, then drop off after sermon. People fast-forward through parts.
 - d. Survey online worshippers to ask what they like and what they don't like?
 - e. How does one define worship?
 - f. Chapters 4 & 5 for the next meeting.

7. Policy – Mary

A. Personnel Policy Update -

- i. Next one to be updated.
- ii. It is long, 50 pages. There's a lack of time/personnel to start this project at this time.

8. Monitoring and Oversight

A. Reports :

- i. Senior Pastor Report
 - a. Review of Engagement Report
- ii. Campus Ministry Coordinator
- iii. Vicar's Report
- iv. Office Manager Report
- v. Music Ministry
- vi. Facilities Manager Report
- vii. Treasurer Report
 - a. Ahead at this time. 26K compared to the budget.
 - b. However, giving is low so far in February.

B. Old Business:

- i. Updates on adjustments to schedule related to COVID-19
- ii. 100th Anniversary of Grace
 - a. Straw Poll regarding limited Alcohol at congregational Dinner.
 - b. Discussion
 - What does the Town of Boone say?
 - If family's present, should alcohol be there?
 - What are we gaining by offering alcohol?
 - c. Straw vote; 5 in favor, 3 opposed, 1 abstain
- iii. Circle of Welcome for Refugees – No Update
 - Option instead for now could be LIRS project (clothing).
- iv. Columbarium Update
 - a. \$2500 - 3000/niche for high end columbarium
 - b. 2nd company had more reasonable price
 - c. Garden work needs done. Area needs to be made handicapped accessible.
 - d. \$400/niche with 2nd option and garden/facility updates.
- v. Security Protocol Group
 - a. Jennifer and Jonathon working on remote cameras and doorbells. Looking at "Ring" type doorbells for Narthex and office sides.
 - b. Would allow for remote communication with people outside the building.
- vi. Fire Alarm System (Pastor Steve) - no update
- vii. Sabbatical Update (Pastor Steve)
 - a. Refer to P. Steve's report.
 - b. Hoping to get one person who would be there for the 10 Sundays to lead worship. Adjusted sabbatical funding to pay this person. Could be covered with lack of intern salary next year.
- viii. Strengthening the Financial Position of Grace
 - a. Not a whole lot of change from previous.
 - b. Stewardship - Wayne
 - Have an active and vibrant Stewardship committee.

- We'll have a stewardship drive after Easter. Will have temple talks leading up to the 100th Anniversary of Grace.
- Purpose - to celebrate the ministries of Grace and hopefully inspire people to fund these.
- Visual poster or similar to track pledge progress.

ix. GLOO and He Gets Us programs - no update

x. Congregational meals

- a. 17 folks signed up. Expect 25 - 30.
- b. Possibly invite LSA students?

C. New Business

i. A/V Ministry Coordinator

- a. No response yet.
- b. To be posted to Boone Chamber of Commerce.

ii. Nursery Coordinator

- a. Straw Poll related to reopening Staffed Nursery.
- b. Have 3 - 4 children of nursery age. Could be as high as 7.
- c. Age limit for volunteers? To be investigated.
- d. 2 people required in the nursery according to our Safe Child Policy. One must be an adult.
- e. Higher someone to coordinate volunteers.
- f. Straw poll was overwhelmingly positive.

iii. Facility Use Request(s)

- a. All Addictions Recovery Group
Single night need - Game Night
Wayne 1st, Jordan 2nd. Unanimous
- b. Children's Council
Want a weekly gathering. Do a trial period
- c. Quilt Guild
Monthly meeting.

9. Next Meeting: March 20th

- Devotion: Martha

- Kristie Evans will be absent.

10. Meeting Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer - Morgan

Upcoming Devotion List:

April - Emory

May - Jesse

June - Jordan

July - Wayne

August - Jennifer