

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BOARD

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

LEAVENWORTH, KS 66048

June 23, 2020

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Don Homan. Don light the Christ Candle and shared a devotion. The devotion was from "God's Little Daily Devotional", "Contented Regardless".

We Affirm Our Mission

Worship: Penny Paradies - Penny shared the plans being made to start having physical church

Education: Sue Hubert- The Christian Ed committee has been sending Sunday school

material to children that attended Tree House or attended church but not treehouse.

Elders: Kathy Powell – The Elders and Diaconate have divided the congregation into groups that they are checking with on a weekly basis to see if they have anything they need during this time of the pandemic.

Diaconate: Nancy House – she reported that she had sent an e-mail to all the diaconate sharing the changes that were going to be made to the diaconate responsibilities during the services when the church starts having physical services.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Mission of the Church was offered by Kathy Powell.

We present our Offerings

Outreach &Action: Lonnie Dalrymple – no report

Treasurer's Report: Bob Euler – Bob was not present. Pastor John Sowers shared expenses have been down so we continue to be within our budget.

Finance &Stewardship: Pat Barnhardt -no report

Memorials: Ginger Young - no report

Foundation: Fran Gast – Fran is working on getting a new certificate of authority (signature card). The current one is old.

Trustees: Gary Kenton – The insurance company sent us a sensor kit. It is a wireless remote alarm for water leakages, electric outages and temperature. The alarms alert to whomever has been assigned to receive the alerts.

Kathy Powell said she has received several e-mails to check the ADA batteries and pads to make sure, they are still in date. Gary asked her to forward the e-mails to Diane at the church office. He said he checks the ADA periodically to make sure the batteries and pads are ok.

Prayers of Thanksgiving for Generous Stewards of God were offered up by Gary Kenton

We Celebrate God's Work

Property: Richard Sack – We have spent \$30.000 since the first of the year on property repairs. The

Water repair was \$18,000. The air conditioner downstairs was replaced and new one is more efficient and cost effective.

There are still toilets that occasionally leak or continue running. If you are aware of a problem, let someone on the property committee know. Do not assume they already know.

The church properties are being used currently so the heat and air conditioning are not turned on. The preschool has reported a problem with bugs. In checking on this it was discovered that the man who had been spraying had died 9 months ago. The property committee hired Leavenworth Pest Control. They will treat all three building quarterly for \$90 a treatment.

CMF: David Bryant – Pastor John Sowers reported there will be no fair parking this year so no income from that source. They may do something else as a fund raiser.

DWF: Danielle Euler – no report

Evangelism: Jody Bryant – no report

Jack and Jill: Sandy Bushman – Pastor John Sowers reported they are \$2000 below what income was currently last year. Previously they had 10 – 15 summer explorers. They currently have 5-7. The number in daycare is also low.

Youth Representative: Max Matousek – no report

Future Planning: Lois Steineker – security plans have been put on hold until the church is back to physical church.

At Large Members: No report needed

Prayers for the work of each of these groups were offered by Lois Steineker

We Proclaim Our Ministry

Old Business: No old Business

New Business: Penny Paradise presented the plan for worship when we can go back to a physical Church service.

The restrooms in the Narthex will be the only ones available. They will no longer be gender specific.

This is to allow us to be a more inclusive (LBGTQ) Church. This will also allow a faster time with no waiting for “ladies” or “gentlemen”.

Diane in the office is ordering cleaning supplies as she is able – 2 containers at a time is the current limit.

According to CDC criteria the seats do not need to be wiped down between services due to length of time between services (1 week).

The current plan does not call for reservations but as the number of people attending increases that may change if the number of members wanting to attend exceeds the meeting limits set by the health department.

The elders may have to assist in the diaconate duties if the number of diaconate willing to serve at services is less than the number needed. (Nancy House’s e-mail asked who would be willing to attend services and serve. Many of the diaconate are leery of returning to physical services currently).

The plan calls for everyone's temperature to be taken before being admitted to the building. If the temperature is >100.4 they will be asked to not attend the service. If they are having any other symptoms associated with the covid virus they will be asked to not attend the service.

Visitors to the service will be asked for their contact information in case of an exposure.

The worship committee made a motion requiring all people attending a service be required to wear a mask. Our insurance company is recommending masks be worn. Sue Hubert asked about children < 2. They would not be required to wear a mask. Gary Kenton asked about a "mask required" sign. A motion from a committee does not need to be seconded. A vote was taken, and motion was passed. The information about the new plan for worship and masks will be sent out in a letter, put in the newsletter and put on the church's website. Laney Mellott has been making masks and they will be provided to people as they come to attend services. They can be taken how and washed and brought back or people may bring their own.

Gary Phillips told the board that he had been checking on pricing for updated equipment for the video church services. The equipment we have been using is old equipment from church members to get us started when it became apparent, we were going to go with a virtual service rather than a physical church. Gary said the pricing he had put together would be \$2947. Gary Kenton added that the track lighting at the front of the church needed to be updated to give a better picture for the video. He said that would be about \$1000. Lois Steineker added that Gary Phillips had incurred some personal expenses in getting the system up and running and he should be reimbursed for that expense. Fran Gast suggested some of the memorial money be used for this. Gary Kenton made a motion to use \$5000 from the Memorial Fund. Melissa Wilson seconded the motion. The motion was passed. The church is paying \$329.90 a year for the Zoom program and \$100 a month for the 800 number used.

Youth Director: Danielle Euler – Danielle asked for feedback from the board about a plan for the children during church services. Some of the parents do not want to have their children with them during the service. She suggested taking the children to the preschool playground, an activity bag with their name on it. Alternative activity if it was raining or too hot to go outside. After some discussion the board asked Danielle and Sue Hubert to put together a plan and bring it back to the board.

Re-Energized Youth Director: Katie Collins – Katie said she was hoping to do some training work with Architect Ministries. Also Talking to Max Matousek about youth activities, maybe a barbeque with yard games. They might talk to some of the parents about acquiring youth games for the church.

Pastor's Report – See attached

After prayers and concerns were discussed, Pastor John Closed the meeting with Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, **Melissa Mitchell-Wilson**, Secretary to the Congregation

Attendees at the June 23, 2020, Board Meeting:

Pastor John Sowers

Don Homan

Molly Homan

Penny Paradies

Laney Mellott

Sue Hubert

Melissa Mitchell-Wilson

Kathy Powell

Fran Gast

Gary Kenton

Richard Sack

Danielle Euler

Emily McCracken

Lois Steineker

Barb Collins

Nancy House

Katie Collins

Jim Bliss (not a voting member)