

Attending via video conference - Eric Adler, Sara Christensen, Tepring Crocker, Erin Feitz, Karen Gallagher, Anne Hoffman, Phil Howes, Mary McClure, Becky McElduff, Matt Moeder, Kay Moffat, Tom Thornton, and Jeff Zimmerman

Not Attending – Shelle Jensen, Jayson Parker,

Staff: Rev. Carla Aday, Eileen Brown, Carla Rauth

Welcome

Tepring Crocker, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00. Ms. Crocker suggested that a Board Social in the tent could be set for Friday, Sept. 11, prior to the Board Retreat on Saturday, details to be determined.

Opening Meditation

Jeff Zimmerman gave the devotion on being the ‘body of Christ.’

Consent Agenda

Ms. Crocker asked the Board whether there were any amendments or corrections to the items on the consent agenda. Motions to approve the July 14, 2020 Congregational Board Minutes and the Dashboard Report for August 2020 were approved unanimously.

Finance Update

Phil Howes, Treasurer, reported that a Dashboard Committee is looking at enhancements to the report.

Mr. Howes reviewed the Financial Report for the year ending 6/30/2020. The year ended with net income that the Finance Committee recommends keeping as on hand for the coming year due to the uncertainty of the economy. If the year ends well, these funds could go toward the capital campaign or other use. Other points noted: Positive contributions during the pandemic, Chapel fire insurance income, PPP funding loan forgiveness expected, expenses lower than budget, Early Childhood income down due to closure of the program during pandemic. A motion to approve the financial report was approved unanimously and Mr. Zimmerman thanked Mr. Howes and the committee for their efforts.

Mr. Howes brought a proposal from the Finance Committee to transfer funds from the last Capital Campaign to pay a portion of the Director of Mission Partnerships salary and Northeast projects through the end of the year. The motion was approved unanimously.

Personnel Report

Mary McClure, Personnel Chair, reported that the Director of Operations position has been eliminated due to the building being closed during the pandemic. Funds will be redirected toward technology needs. Jason Ashley’s last day was July 31 and Ms. McClure encouraged the Board to send cards to the church that will be delivered to him.

Senior Minister Report

Rev. Carla Aday presented the Senior Minister Report, attached.

Vision of Ministry

Ms. Crocker reviewed the summary of the Vision of Ministry process and work to date, attached, noting that the goal is to get the information needed to finalize the vision statement in September at the Retreat.

Ms. Crocker asked 3 sub-groups to work on the open question: What kind of hub can we become for our

local neighbors? Notes from each group are attached and will be shared with the Board prior to the retreat.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Ms. Crocker called the meeting to a close at 8:35. Rev. Aday provided the closing prayer.

Senior Minister Report – Rev. Carla Aday
August 11, 2020

Dashboard Comments:

- First month of the year so no trend lines yet.
- Attendance up significantly over last July
- First time visitors have not yet been recorded but we will get those added as we just started taking attendance in mid to late July.
- Giving a little low in July compared to budget but still higher than last July

Vision of Ministry:

Activate our congregation, by empowering members, to communicate our unique message through words and deeds to the community.

- Roots – 18 adults 20s and 30's – first time visitors, visitors, wedding couples
- Parenting College Students Seminar – Thursday night Aug 13
- Back to School Blessing and Third Grade Bibles
- Examining new ways to invite in current context

Be a catalyst for change in Kansas City through service projects, partnerships and forums that help us clarify how to faithfully address the root issues of injustice.

- Anti-Racism Workshop – first of three workshops well attended and good energy!
- Partnerships: Della Lamb – desserts for teachers; Micah youth serving dinner; Urban Farm Guys – Roots; Hartman- uniforms for Collection Connection
- Covid Fund – around a dozen grants
- Roots – session with Mayor Lucas in Sept.

Take the ministry to where people are rather than expecting them to come to us

- Candle Report
- Mini Staff retreat – creating an online church

Other:

- Eileen Brown – Interim Executive Director of Operations
- Worship – weekly examining best options
- Study Leave: August 16-21
- Sermon Series on Windows
- The Next 100 and Centennial Celebration

August 11, 2020 Congregational Board Meeting
Notes from Breakout Group Discussions

Group 1 Notes:

What needs are out there that the church *should* meet? What needs are in sync with the mission of the church?

Socials with two groups:

- Adopt a grandparent
- All day preschool (with curriculum)/daycare
 - Parents Day Out 9-2/2:30
 - Preschool Hours?

Youth – Tyler

- Youth Service Corps
- Stay-at-home mission trip
- Kids of non-members – Pastors’ Class

Children/families – Catherine

- ½ day / week in June – 3rd graders
- Vacation Bible School substitute

Sync with the mission of the church

- Community – relationships
- Spiritual/social health – cradle to grave (Intergenerational)
- Service and social justice – Exposure to different communities, life experiences

Group 2 Notes:

What is the church’s role in each of these life stages?

What is the role of the Church to become a hub for the neighborhood within 1 mile radius as it relates to different life stages?

The breakout group determined that there may be a common approach to being a hub during all stages of life and that would be to develop mentorship/partnership/support group models and invite neighbors in those various stages to participate. This model also lends itself to virtual groups, telephone contacts, email exchanges if the current environment continues making it hard for in person gatherings.

We would need to take some sort of inventory to identify members of the congregation that have experience with issues relating to the various stages of life and recruit them to be mentors/partners/participants. Then we would have to figure out how to identify neighbors who would benefit and get the neighbors to participate.

Group 3 Notes:

What group(s) are our “target audience”? Is it in the interests of the church or leverage existing groups (MOPS, Couples Communication) to serve our target audience?

- Easy targets would be existing groups such as MOPS or Preschool/PDO families
- Initially discussed targeting a younger demographic, however, realized this would isolate other groups
- How do we differentiate ourselves from other churches such as The Cause – what draws people to that church?
- How do we let people know that despite our traditional building and services we are a progressive congregation?

Ideas:

- Targeting people who are looking for beauty in their life:
a beautiful experience, this includes the church building itself but also theological openness, a deeper connection, open thinking, spiritual connection & acceptance & inclusiveness

Questions:

- What draws younger people to the church?
- What do wedding couples or attendees feedback if they choose to come to services as far as what brought them to us?
- Perhaps survey some of the younger members as to what drew them to Country Club Christian over other churches.