

# ST. STEPHEN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Church Council Meeting

July 19, 2020

Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Youth Reps
Chris Bernard	Ivan Black	Stephanie Jones	Alex Burnett
Tripp Brunson	Steve Fowler	Craig McFarland	Jack Hayes
Ralph Haggard	Sandy Dawkins	Brian Paeth	
Brant Taylor	Paulette Shealy	Karen Spilker	
Christy Wenzel	Mary Elizabeth Windham	Evelyn Temple	

### Executive Committee:

President	Vice-President	Secretary	Treasurer
Brant Taylor	Tripp Brunson	Karen Spilker	Mary Keisler

Pastors: The Reverend Dr. Patrick W. Riddle, The Reverend Jason T. Antley,  
The Reverend Dr. Dennis Bolton

Staff: Shannon Burnett, Tonya Reynolds, Beth Haggard, Bailey Parker, Matthew Ganong,  
Cooper Reynolds

Absent: Steve Fowler, Ralph Haggard, Stephanie Jones, Craig McFarland, Beth Haggard

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Pastor Pat. Chris Bernard was welcomed back following his deployment overseas. The group expressed gratitude for Chris and his service to the country.

**Devotion:** Dwelling in the Word, led by Pastor Pat

The minutes from the June meeting were corrected to include a submitted report by Bailey Parker. With this correction, a motion was made by Chris Bernard to approve the minutes, seconded by Evelyn Temple. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### Staff Reports:

Pastor Pat's report as submitted

Pastor Jason's report as submitted

Pastor Jason indicated that Barbara Lunsford has expressed the desire to become a member of the congregation. A motion was made by Tripp Brunson to approve her membership, which was seconded by Christy Wenzel and unanimously approved by the group.

Pastor Dennis' report as submitted

Shannon Burnett's report as submitted

Cooper Reynolds' report as submitted

Cooper explained his recent efforts to modernize and streamline multiple computer programs and functions.

Beth Haggard's report as submitted

Bailey Parker's report as submitted

Mary Keisler's report as submitted

There is no Narthex Report.

#### **Committee Reports:**

There are no committee reports.

#### **Old Business:**

Online worship has been progressing smoothly, as has the transition to one 10 am in-person service on Sundays. Pastor Pat reported that approximately 75-85 people are watching Wednesday services online, and approximately 100 are watching on Sundays.

The Covid-19 Advisory Task Force will continue meeting monthly, with the next meeting on July 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm.

The Preschool Advisory Board will meet on July 28 to discuss plans for the fall. The feasibility of a return to school and options for teachers and students will be discussed. A decision will be made by August 3 as to whether the school will reopen in the fall.

#### **New Business:**

Financial consultant, Mike Ward, sent a letter detailing his proposal to work with the council on strategic planning for the next 3-5 years, debt elimination, and modified committee structure. The plan would involve 6 months of strategic planning including a silent campaign to solicit large donors for debt elimination. An active campaign would follow some time during 2021. The fees for the strategic planning, governance, and silent campaign would be \$6,000, plus some additional fees once the silent campaign is underway. Ivan Black moved that we engage Mike Ward to assist with the campaign, and that we authorize up to \$10,000 in expenditures during the initial phase of the campaign. Christy Wenzel seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**Council Person of the Month for August is Craig McFarland.**

**Next meeting will be August 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. It is expected that Mike Ward would join the meeting at 7:00 pm.**

Respectfully submitted on July 28, 2020 by Karen Spilker