

**ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
6180 HIGHWAY 65 NE  
FRIDLEY, MINNESOTA 55432**

**Official Minutes  
Board of Administration Meeting  
May 30, 2017, 6:45 PM**

Meeting was called to order by board President Mike Youngberg at 6:45pm.

**Members in attendance:**

Mike Youngberg, Valerie Sperry, Kathy Pullen, Dawn Hansen, Betty Schweppe, Bryant Holmstrom, Barbara Cooper, and Carol Anderson. Absent: Leif Ronken

**Staff in attendance:**

Interim Senior Pastor Christine Wenzel, Pastor Mollie Dvorak, and Jeannine Arcand (Office Manager), and Connie Yerigan, Children and Family Ministry

**Opening Prayer**

Almighty God, draw our hearts to you, guide our minds, fill our imaginations, control our wills, so that we may be wholly yours. Use us as you will, always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

**1. Devotions:** Barbara Cooper gave devotions using info from *Hallelujah Anyway: Rediscovering Mercy* by Anne Lamont.

**2. Consent Approval:**

A. April, 2017 Minutes M/S/C

B. May, 2017 Agenda  
M/S/C.

C. May Committee Reports – The Committee Chairs also received copies of the minutes.

D. Minutes of annual meeting...Mike Youngberg wrote minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting with the help of Val Sperry. They will be ready for the June meeting.

**3. Checking In / Introductions** – Joel school is done! Mollie's boys turn 4 June 1<sup>st</sup>. Carol going to Seattle. Val taking a trip with her parents to celebrate their wedding anniversary.

**4. Membership – New/Transferred –**

Transferred – Linda and Roger LaFond; Jan Ostendorf; Donald and Rose Peters; Madilyn, Scott and Trisha Weir; Joel, Ian and Hannah Wight Hoogheem.

Released – Corey, Emma, Maxwell and Lisa Boerner; Dan and Jackie Campeau; Dominick, Joel, Nicole and Riley Christensen; Kelly Habig; Brigitte Hansen; Genette Hansen; Lance, Lucy and Samuel Hybben; Ar(Anne E) and Casey Peter Johnson; Carol and John Kapotas; Donald and Joyce Olson; Eliot and Taylor Sherry (Christensen household); Alexander and Heather Stokes; Nathaniel Weber.

**5. Bob Becker – Advocacy Group** – Bob presented a 3 page document to the board that included information about ‘who is your neighbor’, ‘what are your biases’, partnering resources, goals we might include, outreach opportunities for St. Philip’s, race demographics and possible community partners and support. In addition Bob had information from the Minneapolis Area Synod of the ELCA and a handout written by John Pavlovitz -”Outside the Church Building”. Bob has done a lot of work to get facts and figures together in addition to meeting with leaders of organizations interested in Advocacy Ministry. He has read many books to support his call for an Advocacy Ministry. One such book is “A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota”. He had recently seen the movie Neither Wolf Nor Dog, based on a book by Kent Nerburn on forgotten roads of an Indian Elder.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve formation of an Advocacy Ministry at St. Philip’s led by Bob Becker. This ministry will advocate for the rights and concerns of our poor neighbors and those in the LGBTQ, Muslim, Asian, African-American, Latino and Native American communities that surround us. Some of the goals will be to listen, learn and determine ways to support our neighbors and will include studies of racial bias vs racial privilege. Bob will be setting up meetings in the near future for all to get involved. (Side note- first meeting is set for June 20<sup>th</sup>, 7-8:30 PM.)

**6. Financial Reports:** Treasurer, Leif Ronken was not present. Jeannine handed out the April financial report. Through the end of May we are down \$22,000. Memorial weekend only \$3000 donated.

**7. Pastors and Administrator Reports and Committee Reports:**

A. Pastor Christine – See below.

B. Pastor Mollie – Summer worship mentality kicked off. Blended worship seemed to go well. June 4th Sunday will be outside instead of inside due to weather. We will enjoy the neat Pentecost decorations and banners . Wear red on Sunday, the party color of the church! First Wednesday will be outside. Jennifer Thurman has taken the lead on music for this service. The theme is the “Gift of Imperfection“, a book by Brene Brown. We are all worthy and imperfect and we need to forget about who we should be but figure out who we are. 6PM. Communion... 45 minutes. Kids will collect the offering.

C. Jeannine (SPLC Office Manager) –See in Old Business.

D. Connie Yerigan –Children and Family Ministry Program Presentation to Board: Connie provided a handout to the Board with facts and figures about Sunday School teachers and kids. She indicated we have lots of parents who drop off their children for Sunday School and Connie will work to get them involved and feel welcome. Connie is brainstorming to maintain and grow her programming! This may include changes to the program and/or the use of cross-generational programing. Connie has designed a new ‘ark’ to be used for the children’s offering. Some money from this offering was used on behalf of children and families to give to the Heifer Project. Vacation Bible School starts on June 19-23 and she is looking for volunteers! Connie asked for Board support as she spends time researching new ideas for programming. She said there is not a day that goes by that she

doesn't realize how truly blessed she is to have this job. Thanks Connie. Jeannine Arcand gave a shout out to the end of Connie's presentation saying she was a great addition to the St. Philip's staff.

- E. Liaisons to Committee: Additional assignments are: Joel will be liaison to Advocacy Ministry; Carol will represent the Transition Team; Mike will represent the staff and on occasion attend their staff meeting.

## 7. Old Business:

- A. **Ministry Booklet update** – Jeannine/Pastor Mollie –Here it is!! Take a look and edit if needed. Let Amada know if we have any updates by June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- B. **Personnel Manual** – Jeannine – A policy manual. See handout. Please look at it and send edits to Jeannine or Mike. We will vote on this at the June meeting.
- C. **Worship Life Task Force update** – Dawn/Pastor Mollie – Next meeting June 11<sup>th</sup> to compile all the information from the cottage meetings. They plan to worship at other locations during summer and have a survey results ready to go in September with statistics. The task force will probably get feedback from the summer worship schedule of one service in summer and Wednesday service as well.
- D. **Transition Team update-** Pastor Christine – Transition Team has met a couple of times. Many people filled out the survey. We will start to compile the information tomorrow and send results off to ELCA to interpret. Installation on June 11<sup>th</sup> (postponed to June 18<sup>th</sup>). Next meeting is June 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:30AM when we will see where we are and will have results of the ELCA survey. The group does not want to do a timeline. The team will work on mission and value statements as well.
- E. **Daycare update** – Jeannine – ‘Seeds of Love’ – The daycare provider contacted Jeannine to let her know that her husband might have an out of state call and if so she would be moving. The daycare is on hold until June when she will notify us of her status.
- F. **Visitation Ministry update** – Pastor Christine – Margie visited with the group on Music Sunday to lay the groundwork to Friendly Visitors. Today she sent out an email inviting the group to training sessions Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday June 15<sup>th</sup>. Both sessions will meet in the conference room
- G. Music budget/staff update – see below.

## 8. New Business:

- A. **Stewardship Discussion** – The Board will do more long range thinking for Stewardship. We haven't had a fall stewardship drive in 5 years. We need to do more and a task force will be formed to address the issue. Pastor Christine will be writing a letter to congregation with a financial update.
- B. **Sanctuary Choir Director** – Mike/Pastor Christine – Issues to consider. Stephanie leaves large shoes to fill in many ways. A letter was written to the choir to ascertain their commitment for next year and seeking ideas as to what is desirable in a new choir director and music. After the choir has spoken, a choir director call committee will be formed.
- C. **Synod Assembly** – May 5 & 6 Report Lord of Life in Ramsey – Mike and Mollie – Theme this year was “Real Presence: In our Neighborhoods, with our Neighbors”. The message and focus was reaching out from your church to the community. So in tune to what we are talking about at St. Philip's - the two sacraments - baptize and commune, we can add a 3<sup>rd</sup> “earthly element”... *those who serve*. Stuningly appropriate to our Board discussions. David Lose and Margaret Lundblad, two pastors who spoke to the assembly. They told of stories about churches sharing how they are doing this. One resolution – reach out – write a statement, form a group was the challenge to all who attended.
- D. **Retreat for Staff, Board & Transition Team** – A retreat for the staff, Board and Transition Team will take place Saturday, June 24, 2017, at Zion Lutheran Church in Anoka. The retreat will be from 9AM to 3PM. The first hour will be individual business of each group and then visioning for St. Philip's will take place the remainder of the day. Each attendee will provide money to buy a box lunch.
- E. **60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Philip's** – The Board has started preliminary thoughts about a 60th Anniversary of St. Philip's in 2018. More to come. (Some thoughts – Concert and Meal for community; Worship Celebration to include neighbors; Open House with tours.) Val Sperry will be contact.
- F. **9. Reflection Time:** What have we done to further the ministry of St. Philip's tonight?

Tonight we are being pushed to be whom we claim to be. Christ never went comfortable places and we need to follow Him. It is not easy. Our focus must be directed out to our community. It will be good for the Board to be committed to reaching out.

**10. Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 9:21 pm by President Mike Youngberg followed by The Lord's Prayer.

**Upcoming Dates:**

**RETREAT Staff, Board, Transition Team**

Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 9:00-3:00

ZION in Anoka

**ALL COMMITTEES Meeting**

Monday, September 11, 2017 (July meeting Canceled)

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, June 14, 2017 4:00 PM

**BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, June 27, 2017 6:45 P.M. MEETING Canceled due to Retreat

No meeting in July

August 15, 2017 6:45 (rescheduled from August 22)

**GARAGE SALE**

July 26- July 29

Minutes submitted by Carol Anderson, St. Philip's Board of Administration Secretary