



## Board Meeting – Feb. 17, 2021

*Our mission: To be a compassionate, welcoming community that nurtures spiritual growth and practices justice.*

### Meeting Minutes

**Board:** Ann Hutton, President; Kim Reid, Vice President; Greg Turosak, Secretary; Rob Harveland, Treasurer; Dave Siljenberg, Joe Lobl, Molly Dingel, Sarah Hayes and Brianna Berg, Members at Large; Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer, ex officio.

**Absent:** None

1. **Call to Order.** Ann called the meeting to order and welcomed Brianna to her first board meeting.
2. **Chalice Lighting and Reflection.** Sarah reflected on the topic of Beloved Community, and she lit the chalice.
3. **Agenda.** Motion by Kim, second by Rob to approve the agenda and the minutes from the January 2021 meeting. Approved.
4. **Installation of new Board member.** Rev. Luke welcomes Brianna to the board. Brianna replaces Kathy Schwarz, who recently resigned. In turn, board members provide words of support for Brianna in welcoming her to the board.
5. **Financial reports.** Rob reported that things are looking pretty well, and “there are no big concerns at all”. Total assets were down about \$2,000 from the previous month. This is about the time of year when we typically start spending more than we take in. So far this church year, our income is about 110% above projections, and our expenses are about 87% of projections.
6. **Minister’s report.** Rev. Luke spoke of hope in these times of continued uncertainty. He said the work of our church remains the same – blessing people’s work, life and identity, reaching out to support and love one another, and to imagine a better future for our children’s children. Future months hold possible re-gathering at first outdoors, important discussions and about the future of our building and grounds, and support for our technical abilities to livestream services and support our staff.
7. **Old business.**
  - a. **Shared Ministry.**
    - i. **Administration.** Greg said next meeting will be March 16.
    - ii. **Congregational Life.** Joe mentioned a variety of activities that have been occurring, from Armchair Travelers to snowshoeing and cross-country skiing events to chalice circles.
    - iii. **Faith Development.** Kim said this team meets in the next week.
    - iv. **Financial Stewardship.** Rob said save-the-date postcards have gone out for the annual pledge drive kickoff on March 6. He said the target for the coming year may be around \$550,000, or about 6% to 8% higher than this year. The percentage increase would cover tech investments salary increases for staff. A close-to-final version of the proposed budget should be done by early April, Rob

said, with discussions at the board meeting in April. Ann said the board will approve a budget at the May board meeting.

- v. **Social Justice.** Molly reported two recent Wednesday forums. She also said the book Just Mercy will be discussed on Feb. 22. Ann said a rescheduled discussion on An Indigenous People's History of the United States will be set.
- vi. **Worship and Music.** Ann said the recent team meeting dealt with what was working well with current services and what will happen when we transition back to in-person services. Also, what kind of technical equipment will we need if we go to live-streamed instead of recorded services. The team is also starting to talk about re-gathering without knowing how or when. Regarding viewing of online services, Ann said the numbers are good; Rev. Luke said the numbers have been ticking up over time.
- b. **Stewardship Campaign.** Joe said Barb Foss deserves kudos for her hard work with stewardship. He said the goal is to have 100% participation in turning in pledge cards. Kickoff event, an edited version of the video from last year, is set for March 6. The March 7 service will be related to the pledge drive, and an outdoor event, such as a drive-through, will take place March 21 to thank people for their participation in the pledge drive. There was discussion of board members agreeing to pledge early as an example, and the consensus supported that approach.
- c. **2021-2022 budget discussion.** Rob said this topic was covered in his previous comments on financial stewardship.
- d. **Sex Offender Risk Reduction Policy: Timeline & activities.** Ann said she was not looking for any decision at this meeting. Greg asked if we could engage Terri Aldred again. Kim said we need at least one more forum. Rev. Luke agreed to reach out to Terri regarding her availability to present at possibly a forum and board meeting. Joe suggested further communication in the eNews and in Grace Notes. Molly suggested sending out the draft policy and a summary of what's been done to date. Ann said the issue comes down to how do we live our values while protecting members of the congregation. Dave asked about congregants who would feel uncomfortable speaking up at a forum. Rev. Luke said he will look at options for getting input from people who may be uncomfortable.
- e. **Building Our Future.** Greg (who, along with Ann, sits on the Building Our Future team) recapped activity in this area over the past month. These activities included announcement of the contingent gift of land; the go-live of a Building Our Future web page; BOF meeting with a representative of Autumn Ridge Church; BOF meeting with a representative of the Heritage Preservation Commission to assess status of our property's potential designation; and possible timing of a BOF team recommendation to the board.

## 8. New business.

## 9. Other/Announcements.

- a. Ann said that Mary Amundsen, a member of the Endowment Fund Committee, has agreed to move forward in a role with that group and will reach out to the Shared Ministry Team regarding what role endowment plays in our new structure.

Meeting adjourned. Next Board meeting will be March 17, 2021.

Respectfully submitted, Greg Turosak, secretary