

Calvary Baptist Church
Church Council Minutes
February 15, 2023
On Zoom

Present: Rick Breitenbecher, Erin Gangloff, Judy Griswold, Cindy Ponikvar, Beth Dickinson, Jim Comstock, Natalie Ralston, Bill Warren, Sarah Brooks, Barbara Carter, Bill Ponikvar, Ryan Robinson, Corry Doty, Christine Zeiler

Staff: Senior Pastor Anne Scalfaro, Pastor Alice Horner-Nelson

Absent: Allie Hulst, David Peterson, Pastor Morgan Fletcher (on sabbatical)

Call to Order and Review of Agenda: Rick Breitenbecher, Co-Moderator, called the meeting to order at 6:31p.m. (MT). He reviewed the agenda and shared usual Council protocol. Rick asked Council members to introduce themselves, share what brought each of us to Calvary and how long each has been here.

Prayer Time: Pastor Alice verified members would get the prayer list in advance of each Council Meeting. She shared a few new additions and led the group in prayer.

Approval of January Council Minutes and 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes: Rick Breitenbecher, Co-Moderator, asked the Council members if there were any additions or changes to either of the Minutes sent out in advance of the meeting. None were noted. All voted to accept both sets of Minutes, which would be placed on the Calvary website, along with the financial reports.

Nominating Committee – Nomination of Marie Dykes: Jim Comstock, Nominating Chair, put forward the nomination of Marie Dykes to the Nominating Committee. Jim made a motion to accept the nomination of Marie Dykes. Rick Breitenbecher asked if there were any questions and called for a vote. All voted in favor and Marie Dykes was accepted to the Nominating Committee.

Financial Report – Cindy Ponikvar, Church Treasurer, gave a brief overview of Calvary's financial structure and the types of accounts managed by Calvary. She also reviewed each line item of the January 2023 P&L (Profit & Loss) Statement of Activity and talked about what monies were represented in each revenue and expense line.

Total Operating Revenues were \$250,769.98 which included \$81,947.31 in Miracle Match funds.

Total Operating Expenses were \$83,107.92, noting the large increase in Resource Management's electricity and heating expenses of \$10,600 and snow removal costs of \$5,600.

Net Operating Revenue as of January 31, 2023 was \$167,662.06.

Church Highlights, from the past month, celebrated the generosity and success of the Miracle Match, distribution of the new church directory and church access cards, as well as Pastor Morgan's sabbatical and new front doors with new locks for heightened building security.

Faith Formation, by Senior Pastor Anne Scalfaro, had Council discuss in small groups 3 questions in preparation for our church-wide discernment:

1. Where do you feel the most energy at Calvary right now?

2. What are the deepest unmet needs you see in our community/society?
3. What is a God-sized dream for Calvary?

Responses from groups:

- music, children on the chancel steps, Men's Group, Koinonia class, Bootstraps and Blessings, Resource Management, Miracle Match
- people experiencing homelessness, people sleeping next to the church, resources to help the unhoused, unhoused, mental health, food insecurity, gun violence and crime, people resorting to violence as a solution to problems
- increased membership, new ideas for stewardship, comprehensive youth program to attract families, balcony full with people

COMMITTEE TEAM REPORTS

Natalie Ralston, Stewardship Chair, reported Miracle Match totaled \$91,737.41 + the anonymous gift of \$75,000 equaled \$166,737, with 128 giving units. Some of those giving units had not pledged before. Committee members wrote thank you notes to the 128 giving units.

Beth Dickinson, Staff Relations Chair, commented the committee had no work since revising the budget. They are planning to meet with a staff member each month and have met with Pastor Anne to discuss her priorities for this year and are putting together an article for the E-News about that. Pastor Morgan is on the first part of her sabbatical. Staff Relations is looking at how/when to fill the 10 hour a week administrative assistant person in the office. They are also working on looking at another resource for tracking vacation time, conference time, and sick leave.

Bill Warren, Resource Management Chair, remarked the committee met on February 14. Gordon Pelton is continuing to help the group. Projects completed and upcoming included: 10 rooms carpeted, Fellowship Hall and 1 classroom painted, with 3 more rooms to paint. The Calvary sign is lighted again, with new power, thanks to Ken DeHate. The phone system will be replaced over the next 2-3 months to an IP based phone system. Also, the old wi-fi system is being replaced.

STAFF UPDATES

Pastor Morgan's updates were given by Pastor Anne. The big picture focus is Pastor Morgan will be checking in with small group leaders for end of program year needs and 2023-2024 initial plans. She's looking for new support for Habitat for Humanity and Family Promise, as well as establishing a regular meeting schedule with the Faith Formation Ministry Team and the Congregational Care Team. In the next 2-3 months, she will be training for the Bootstraps Ministry and for staff. She'll be prepping for the summer trips and helping the pastoral team work on this discernment process. She's excited that Angelique Watts will be co-leading the Civil Rights Road Trip and about the upcoming discernment process and hearing from the congregation in a different way that may allow for a new practice of communication around our church's focus and practices.

Senior Pastor Anne communicated her big picture focus is congregational discernment through 'Every Voice in 40 Days', which includes March and early April being a time for multi-tiered listening groups for all members to participate in a variety of ways, i.e., small focus groups (in person and on Zoom), individually, in-depth written responses. In late April, there will be a forming of insights by the Leadership Team, followed by suggested next steps in May through July. Send her any feedback you might have for congregational discernment. In the next 2-3 months, she is looking toward Lent, Holy

Week and Easter, as well as reaching out to International Ministries Global Servants to connect with them. She will also be reaching out to each of the Council members for a 1-on-1 meeting about church business and cultivating relationships. She'll be working with the discernment visioning team and retreats in April toward pastoral planning in May and June. Under brainstorming, she's requesting Council members to send her a text if we've met someone new at Calvary, so they can be connected with by staff. Something exciting is that she is planning for the congregation to attend a play, at Curious Theater, with New Hope in late March. Random thoughts include the new Healing & Wholeness Services that will consist of 7 services versus 12 per year. (1 Advent service, 3 times on Sunday morning at 8:00a.m., and 3 other services on Zoom on Tuesday evenings). Calvary got a letter and a certificate in the mail from International Ministries that we have been included in the Luther Rice Society for our leadership in generosity in supporting Global Servants. Calvary is among the top 8% of supporters giving to International Ministries. Anne has been invited to a very special Luther Rice Society Appreciation Dinner at the ABC-USA Biennial on June 23, 2023 in Puerto Rico, which she will attend on Calvary's behalf.

Pastor Alice shared her big picture areas of focus are social media and storytelling to expand our ministry impact. In 2-3 months she shared she'd be working on finding a new database for Calvary that better meets our needs. She's excited she has approval to go on Calvary's Civil Rights Trip; a first time experience for her.

Wrap-up: Rick Breitenbecher, Co-Moderator, asked if anyone had anything to add or any questions. Sarah Brooks asked for clarification about the upcoming Council Retreat. Rick shared that on Sat., Feb. 25 from 10:00a.m. - 1:30p.m. Council would meet in the Youth Lounge and via Zoom for a time of interacting, learning and team building. Pastor Morgan will send out the agenda in advance of the meeting. Lunch will be served.