

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

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

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

Absent: Natalie Ralston, Allie Hulst

Call to Order and Review of Agenda: Erin Gangloff, Co-Moderator, called the meeting to order at 6:33p.m. (MT) and reviewed the agenda, which is shorter than usual due to the Council discernment session.

Prayer Time: Pastor Alice stated she and Judy Griswold were working on assessing the use of the prayer phone. She asked Council members if they or anyone they know made use of the prayer phone. Several responded affirmatively. Pastor Alice thanked Council for their input and commented Rev. Mary Hulst felt the prayer phone was still a need. She then asked for Council members to share in a sentence about how each of us were doing today. Pastor Alice updated the prayer list and then led the group in prayer.

Council Norms: Erin Gangloff, Co-Moderator asked Council to approve the Norms and Expectations Council worked on at our Council Retreat on February 25, 2023. All should have received the document formalized by Sarah Brooks, Barbara Carter, Beth Dickinson, and Corry Doty. All present Council members approved the Norms and Expectations.

Approval of February Council Minutes: Erin Gangloff, Co-Moderator, shared 3 revisions to the Minutes sent out by Judy Griswold, Church Secretary, to add clarification to the Minutes. All approved the Minutes as revised.

Financial Report: Cindy Ponikvar, Church Treasurer, shared the following regarding the February 2023 Financial Review:

- Total Operating Revenues were \$81,715.86 which included \$10,901.10 in Miracle Match funds; noting an increase in pledges and tithes and offerings in February.
- Total Operating Expenses were \$71,846.29. Utilities remained at \$10,000.
- Net Operating Revenue as of February 28, 2023 was \$9,869.57.

Church Highlights, from the past month, included the joy of new members, pastors' children on the steps with them to hear Word for God's Children, Rick Breitenbecher in church, in person, and singing with the choir, as well as the interment in the Columbarium Courtyard for Marvel Fisher.

COMMITTEE TEAM REPORTS

Beth Dickinson, Staff Relations Chair informed Council she had provided an article for ENews about Pastor Anne's priorities for this year and will be sharing Morgan and Alice's priorities, with the

congregation in the coming weeks. The committee reviewed Pastor Morgan's plans, with her, for sabbatical coverage. They began planning Pastor Alice's anniversary celebration, scheduled for April 23. They are continuing to work on getting the time off request system in Altitude Payroll to work more optimally for Calvary and are resolving a few questions in the updated Ministerial Handbook before distributing to staff.

Bill Warren, Resource Management Chair, shared the telephone installation and wifi systems replacement are ongoing. Asbestos removal is complete in rooms 111 and 119, as well as carpet installation being completed. Ethernet is being added to rooms 109 and 154 and upcoming to rooms 134, 136 and 138. Removing clutter throughout the building is on-going. The underground plumbing still needs repair in the disabled lot.

Natalie Ralston, Stewardship Chair, reported the committee met on March 5. They focused on getting to know each other, discussed the success of the Miracle Match, and brainstormed additional ways to encourage giving and “spontaneous giving” to Calvary. They are working on scheduling at least one Moment of Gratitude each month. Members of the committee continue to write hand-written thank you notes to any new donors. Their next meeting will be in May.

STAFF UPDATES

Senior Pastor Anne noted:

- her **big picture focus** is the Congregational Discernment Process, Every Voice in 40 Days – Many thanks to Pastor Morgan for organizing so much of the logistics of the listening sessions. Now our focus is reaching out to people who are not in a regular small group and/or have not signed up for a one-to-one session, to ensure their voice is heard. After the listening season of Lent, the focus will be sifting through all of the data and working with the discernment leadership team and Rev. Sam Kim of Evergreen at the retreat in April to find common threads throughout what we’ve heard so we can determine next steps and report back to the congregation.
- Items of **priority for the next 2-3 months include**:
 - Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Worship experiences
 - Congregational Discernment Process & Visioning Leadership Retreat and Pastoral Planning Retreat
 - Connecting with Council leaders one-on-one
 - Reaching out to our International Missionaries Global Servants
 - Curious Theatre Event with New Hope Baptist
 - Pastoral Care (including Jeanine Crane's Memorial Service and following up with new members who have recently joined the church)
 - Preparing personally/spiritually/emotionally for the Civil Rights Road Trip.
- She’s **excited about**:
 - The two families who joined our church on Sunday
 - Conversations I’ve had with new members; their energy and hope
 - The flowering cross on Easter Sunday
 - Pastor Alice’s 5th Anniversary Celebration
 - Pastor Morgan’s upcoming sabbatical break; rejoicing in her opportunity for rest and renewal
- **Random item(s)**:
 - Will soon begin discussing with staff and Staff Relations the 10 hour a week Pastoral Assistant position.

Missions Ministry Team: Nothing to officially report at this time, other than Roger Dickinson returned from his exploratory trip to the Dominican Republic with Rev. John Turnage to visit International Missionaries Global Servants Ketly & Vital Pierre.

Pastor Alice shared:

- her **big picture focus** includes:
 - Helping our members and regular attendees connect with one another.
- the **next 2-3 months** she's looking at:
 - Assisting with discernment communications pieces.
 - Reaching out to visitors who fill out connection cards and to our new members.
 - Starting a Calvary story on our longevity members.
 - Thinking of Calvary folks who she hasn't connected with yet, and meeting them for coffee.
 - Reaching out to our community mission partners.
- She's **excited about:**
 - Being the officiant in the baptismal waters this year.
 - Marking her 5 years at Calvary (technically on April 1 but it's being observed on April 23).
 - Finishing up the Bootstraps video.
 - Ian Fletcher has been stellar in implementing the process of switching our phones to a new system.
- Something **she needs help workshopping:**
 - She's continuing to take Calvary story ideas for 2023.

Pastor Morgan will be focusing on:

- **big picture items:**
 - Take home materials around Faith Formation For Families and working with Angela on these items.
 - Planning end of year wrap-up for small groups and beginning summer faith formation opportunities.
 - Establishing a rhythm with the Congregational Care Ministry Team.
- **The next 2-3 months:**
 - Supporting our Discernment Facilitators as they hold listening sessions, whether that be through scheduling, supplies, or other needs.
 - Supporting Angela with Parents' Afternoon Out (March 25) & Easter Egg Hunt (April 8). If you'd like to help with either you can contact Angela.
 - Summer Trip material and confirmations of logistics
 - Senior Sunday in worship
 - Family Promise Host week support as our first week is during one of her sabbatical stints.
 - Beginning a communion ministry team & a focus area of the faith formation ministry team that focuses on church events – particularly children's ministry events.
- She's **excited about:**
 - Learning what the congregation is discerning together.
- **Random:**

- Her upcoming sabbatical stints are: April 10-16th (Min. Ben Sanders will be guest preaching for her on April 16th) and May 1-15.

Council Discernment (not recorded in minutes)