

Church Council Agenda

Thursday, September 17, 2020 - 7:00 AM

Brian Burkhardt (2021) -President
Greg Nicoll (2021)
Todd Parsons (2021) - Treasurer

PJ Mills (2022)
Jim Dally (2022)
Kelly Turner (2022)

Katy Clapham (2023) – Vice Pres.
Gordie Sorensen (2023) -Secretary
Curt Thoreson (2023)
Pastor Brian Julin-McCleary

1. **Call to Order:** Brian Burkhardt
2. **Mission and Vision Statements:** Brian Burkhardt
 - a) *“Joyfully taking God’s love into the world”*
 - b) *“Connecting Christ’s community by building relationships among all people, fulfilling the call of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through:
Caring, nurturing and supporting one another according to each one’s needs by Sharing God’s love and grace through acts of service while Growing in faith through lifelong learning”.*
3. **Adoption of Agenda:** Brian Burkhardt
4. **Devotion:** Katy Clapham
5. **Business**
 - Re-Entry Plan – All
 - Benefit Recommendations - All
 - COVID Related Absence/Pay – All
 - Personnel Policy v2 Review – All
 - Coverage of Finance Position - All
 - Resource Team Updates
 - Hospitality & Congregational Care Ministry Team – Kelly Turner
 - Serving & Discipleship Ministry Team – Gordie Sorensen
 - Worship & Celebration Ministry Team – Greg Nicoll
 - Faith Formation & Lifelong Learning Ministry Team – Katy Clapham
 - Human Resource Team – Jim Dally
 - Financial Resource Team – Todd Parsons
 - Property Resource Team – Curt Thoreson
 - Technology & Communication Resources Team – PJ Mills
 - Reports
 - Church Council Minutes: (see attachment)
 - Financial Report
 - Pastor’s Report
6. **Upcoming Meeting Dates**
 - Monthly Church Council meeting – Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 7am
 - Monthly Church Council meeting – Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 7am
 - Christmas Gathering - TBD
 - Monthly Church Council meeting – Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 7am
 - Monthly Church Council meeting – Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 7am
7. **Adjournment**
8. **Closing Prayer**

Church Council Minutes

Thursday, August 20, 2020 - 7:00 AM

Brian Burkhardt (2021) -President
Greg Nicoll (2021)
Todd Parsons (2021) - Treasurer

PJ Mills (2022)
Jim Dally (2022)
Kelly Turner (2022)

Katy Clapham (2023) – Vice Pres.
Gordie Sorensen (2023) -Secretary
Curt Thoreson (2023)
Pastor Brian Julin-McCleary.

1. **Call to Order:** Brian Burkhardt called the meeting to order at 7:04 am. All were present.
2. **Mission and Vision Statements:** Brian Burkhardt
 - a) *“Joyfully taking God’s love into the world”*
 - b) *“Connecting Christ’s community by building relationships among all people, fulfilling the call of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through:
Caring, nurturing and supporting one another according to each one’s needs by
Sharing God’s love and grace through acts of service while
Growing in faith through lifelong learning”.*
3. **Adoption of Agenda:** Agenda was covered in reverse order. *Motion by Kelly Turner to approve, second by Todd Parsons – motion carried.*
4. **Devotion:** Pastor Brian led.
5. **Business**
 - Re-Entry Plan – Continue with outdoor service until it gets too cold. A Re-Entry Taskforce will be formed to make a plan for re-entry into the facility for in-person inside worship. *Motion by Katy Clapham to allow church small groups to use the church facilities, second by Jim Dally – motion carried.*
 - Return to Learn for Sunday School and Confirmation – Small groups are allowed in to use the building so they are able to meet.
 - Communicating/Involvement in the Org Structure –
 - Personnel Policy v2 Review – Discussion was had regarding the health insurance and benefits package.
 - Coverage of Finance Position – Marty Postel is helping with Finance Office coverage.
 - Resource Team Updates
 - Hospitality & Congregational Care Ministry Team – Kelly Turner
 - Serving & Discipleship Ministry Team – Gordie Sorensen
 - Worship & Celebration Ministry Team – Greg Nicoll
 - Faith Formation & Lifelong Learning Ministry Team – Katy Clapham
 - Human Resource Team – Jim Dally: Several candidates for Financial Assistant position.
 - Financial Resource Team – Todd Parsons
 - Property Resource Team – Curt Thoreson
 - Technology & Communication Resources Team – PJ Mills: Banner is done and installed outside. Working on a logo update. Team is using social media for promotions, less newspaper.
 - Reports
 - Church Council Minutes: *Motion by Gordie Sorensen to approve, second by Greg Nicoll – motion carried.*
 - Financial Report: Todd presented the financial report. Giving and Preschool/Childcare revenue is down. *Motion by Katy Clapham to accept, second by Kelly Turner – motion carried.*
 - Pastor’s Report: Pastor Brian summarized his report and how things are going.

6. **Upcoming Meeting Dates**

- Special Church Council meeting – Thursday, September 3 at 7am - ADDED
- Monthly Church Council meeting – Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 7am
- Monthly Church Council meeting – Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 7am
- Monthly Church Council meeting – Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 7am

7. **Adjournment** : Meeting was adjourned at 9am. *Motion by Gordie Sorensen, second by Curt Thoreson – motion carried.*

8. **Closing Prayer**

Church Council Special Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 3, 2020 - 7:00 AM

Brian Burkhardt (2021) -President
Greg Nicoll (2021)
Todd Parsons (2021) - Treasurer

PJ Mills (2022)
Jim Dally (2022)
Kelly Turner (2022)

Katy Clapham (2023) – Vice Pres.
Gordie Sorensen (2023) -Secretary
Curt Thoreson (2023)
Pastor Brian Julin-McCleary

1. **Call to Order:** Brian Burkhardt called the meeting to order at 7:02am. All were present and Beth Sulentic (Human Resource Team) was welcomed.
2. **Mission and Vision Statements:** Brian Burkhardt
 - a) *“Joyfully taking God’s love into the world”*
 - b) *“Connecting Christ’s community by building relationships among all people, fulfilling the call of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through:
Caring, nurturing and supporting one another according to each one’s needs by
Sharing God’s love and grace through acts of service while
Growing in faith through lifelong learning”.*
3. **Adoption of Agenda:** Brian Burkhardt
4. **Business**
 - Discussion was had to finalize benefits for eligible employees. (The recommendations below are being made to the Human Resource Team:)
 - i. Health Insurance for Spouses: *Recommendation to eliminate benefit of spouse’s paid coverage. Health insurance for spouses can be kept by the employee paying cost.*
 - ii. Retirement %: Currently employees are receiving different rates of employer contributions into retirement (some at 6%, some at 10%). *Recommendation to have employer contribution into retirement start at 6% and increase to 10% after 5 years of employment.*
 - iii. Co-Pay: Suggestion of 10% co-pay discussed. *Recommendation to have full-time employees pay a portion of their health care, to be based upon what it was before (NEED AMOUNT).*
 - Holiday Pay for Childcare Staff
 - i. Discussion was had regarding holiday pay for childcare staff. Decision was made that part-time employees would not receive holiday pay.
5. **Upcoming Meeting Dates**
 - Monthly Church Council meeting – Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 7am
 - Monthly Church Council meeting – Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 7am
 - Christmas Gathering - TBD
 - Monthly Church Council meeting – Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 7am
 - Monthly Church Council meeting – Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 7am
6. **Adjournment :** Meeting was adjourned at 8:39 am. *Motion to adjourn was made by Gordie Sorensen, second by Todd Parsons – motion carried.*
7. **Closing Prayer** of “Our Father” was said by all.

Pastor's Report – September 2020

Building Connections:

- Staff and Team Leaders – Patricia Harkin is a great new addition; full complement of staff continue to demonstrate incredible resilience
- St. Johnners – solo visits, visits with Ferg, phone calls, Zoom meetings, Wedding and Baptismal prep meetings
- Local Colleagues – Pastors at Bethlehem, Naz, Cedar Heights Presbyterian 1st UMC, First Christian, Local Pastor text study, NE Iowa Synod Senior Pastors fellowship, Cedar Valley Interfaith Council, Threehouse and Lutheran Campus Ministry
- HR conversations

Communicating:

- Sermons; Facebook posts; Emails; being present at local events
- Supporting our 8 Team leadership structure – How can we best communicate this developing reality to the whole congregation? One thing I'm working on is connecting more regularly with Facilitators and perhaps pursuing a Facilitators check-in meeting
- Joining in Team meetings
- Work on Re-Entry to in-building gatherings and worship

Future Dreaming:

- Fall Bible studies and book studies – Henri Nouwen's "Wounded Healer" coming in Sept.
- Responding to the need to do work around confronting and transforming racism – Joining with Cedar Valley wide effort to read "How to be an Antiracist" by Ibram X. Kendi
- Advent and Christmas at-home possibilities
- Considering future worship realities post summer and in a pandemic-fluid reality

Personal:

- The Peet JH transition continues to be a major blessing for our family
- Scouts, Dance, Peet athletics have all been great extra-curricular opportunities for our kiddos and their peers have extended very kind welcomes...we of little faith (☺) are grateful.
- Both cars can now spend the night in our garage!
- Grateful for the incredible leadership and staff of SJLC! I truly love serving here every day.

Matthew 18:21-35

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church^(a) sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents^(a) was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii;^(a) and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister^(a) from your heart."