

River Valley Alliance Church
Governing Board Meeting
February 15, 2018

Present: Tim Beine, Bruce Cochrane, Matt Colosky, Art Ebert, Dan Ellsworth, Charlene Flint, Joe Haberkorn, Justin Roberts, Greg Schroeder, Pastor Dave Zimmermann.

Absent: Jeremy Walker

Guests: Pastor Michael Golemi

The meeting was called to order. Pastor Dave opened the meeting in prayer.

Previous Minutes: A motion was made by Bruce Cochrane to approve the January 18, 2017 Minutes. Second. Motion carried.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Zimmermann: A written report was submitted. Goals: Pastor Zimmermann's goals for 2018 are: - *Seek the Lord in prayer: personally, as a staff, and as a congregation.* Pastor Zimmermann has set aside the third Monday of the month for prayer. *Community Outreach: Acts 1:8 Commission.* Pastor Zimmermann has begun to compile a list of people to approach to be on the Acts 1:8 Commission. -*Service and Training of New Leaders.* Preaching: The Easter sermon theme will be "The Grave Could NOT Hold Him." Worship: BNY Productions (Bread of Stone) has the sanctuary measurements. They will furnish River Valley with a proposal to complete the speaker installation and what needs to be done to have the wireless mics comply with new regulations. The drum set that was purchased last spring is now complete, in place and being used! Miscellaneous: At the request of District Superintendent Jeff Brown, Pastor Zimmermann will serve on the Western Great Lakes District Dexcom. This is the "Governing Board" for the Western Great Lakes District. Tim Thomas will attend the District Conference in April and will serve as a voting delegate.

Disciplemaking Ministries:

Adults: A written report was submitted. As the year continues there are still approximately 60 to 75 adults getting plugged into one of the Sunday School classes. Running multiple shorter classes throughout the year is an experiment in attempting to maintain momentum all semester instead of starting with a bang and fizzling out by the end. The more traditional one topic class of Hebrews is continuing strongly as well. Seventeen men attended No Regrets in February. Women's Day Away 2018 will be held on Saturday, March 17th. Starting February 27, Pastor Atkins will be leading a new Growth Group at River Valley titled "Understanding Depression." This study will help participants to understand how being a Believer and struggling with depression are not mutually exclusive. Pastor Atkins has also started to have a monthly check in with all the growth group leaders. This month he will be checking in and gathering stories of the impactful things that God is doing in the groups. Pastor Atkins submitted two proposals from Elexio. The current Elexio will no longer exist. Everyone will have to be re-trained with the new Elexio. If approved, the process of change over will begin immediately.

Middle School and High School: A written report was submitted. The high school Sunday school class is looking deeper into the original narrative in Genesis chapters 1-11. They began by drawing the original/intended meaning from the text itself, before addressing any apologetic concerns. The middle school Sunday school class has been focusing on 'clarity' from Mark 8, using different people in the Gospel account as illustrations. Sunday February 18 the middle schoolers will finish their study of the Gospel of Mark and will transition to another series: "Made to be Me". The high school retreat (OASIS 2018) was a wonderful opportunity for the high schoolers to get away from all distractions. It was the conversations as a group that made this trip so special. Many of the students opened up to one another and entrusted each other with some

of their deepest struggles. The leaders continue to follow up with the students on the issues they mentioned. Thanks to the planning of Michelle Beine, and the participation of River Valley, the Bread of Stone concert went without a hitch. The turnout to the event was better than expected. The week before the event several people volunteered, and there was always more than enough help to load in/out. February 9-10 was the middle school boys' Video Game Night Lock-in. Not only did the River Valley youth show up, but they brought their friends and family members as well. There were over 20 people in attendance. Pastor Golemi updated the Governing Board on this summer's youth missions' trip. Applications are due Sunday, February 18.

Children: A written report was submitted. The Discovery Land Spring Curriculum will be starting in March. They will be working through some of Jesus' parables and the ministry of Paul. Pastor Zimmermann did popcorn with the Pastor February 7 for the Awana kids. Mrs. Walker is anticipating many visitors for Easter again this year. The Easter lesson is entitled "What is Easter?" Mrs. Walker will be working on information packets and giveaways for the visitors on the different ministries available at River Valley. The Children's Fair is April 21. Mrs. Walker will be doing banners and games and giveaways for this community event. She will be advertising Awana, Discovery Land, and Music Camp as different ministries offered to children in the Watertown community.

Elder Report: A written report was submitted. (See Sr. Pastoral Report) Elder assignments were given. Administration: Dan Ellsworth, Worship: Matt Colosky, Assimilation/Prayer: Justin Roberts, Missions: Bruce Cochrane, and Counseling: Art Ebert. The Elders reviewed the questions that the Acts 1:8 Commission will be reviewing as they evaluate how River Valley is doing on Loving, Proclaiming, Reaching, and Launching. Pastor Zimmermann presented notes from the Converge Conference that he attended in Colorado. He was convicted about how River Valley supports people who are called to serve as international workers from River Valley. Pastor Golemi discussed River Valley joining efforts to bring about Celebrate Recovery in partnership with River City Church. Easter is on April 1. Communion for April will be served on Good Friday.

Finance Report: A written report was submitted by Tim Beine. As of January 31, statement balances were: Checking \$186,123.75 and Money Market \$80,158.11. Credit card debt for January was \$6,885.55. Expenses exceeded revenues by \$25,959.05. The Build the Future Sinking Fund balance as of January 31, 2018 is \$97,640.81.

Impacts (Missions) Report: A written report was submitted. The Impacts Committee discussed defining best practices for communicating prayer requests/ praises from the field to River Valley. The carry forward balance of the Unity of Faith short term account is around \$11,000, which is very close to the amount in the account before fundraising began for the last short-term trip. Janice Quinlan is scheduled to visit River Valley for events Thursday- Sunday October 4- 7, 2018. Debbie Vik is scheduled to visit River Valley for events Thursday- Sunday March 14- 17, 2019. Plans are being pursued to have Sukprasan Sommoom, pastor of the church plant, visit with either Janice Quinlan or Debbie Vik.

Service and Benevolence Report: A written report was submitted. Deposits of \$1,453.00 were made. Disbursements for January were \$2,551.44. The end-of-month balance for the Benevolent Fund is \$5,864.72. Benevolent activity has been minimal. There has not yet been a February meeting. Sue Buchanan has joined the group as a Deaconess and will need to have training in the different functions that she will participate in.

Treasurer's Report: A written report was submitted. A sum of \$80,000 was transferred to Partnership Bank, 4 CD's, \$20,000 each, 2% for 25 months. Annual Financial Examination Report submitted (AKA Audit) by Exam. Team: Ron Sokovich and Chris Mertens. Financial Team will meet with Examination Team to determine any necessary changes to payment procedure and filing. Treasurer Informed GB of new form for gifts of

appreciated assets. Total online giving for Jan - \$9,439. Average weekly offering YTD \$5,934. Budget vs. actual reporting will be abnormal due to large donations given in 2017 for 2018.

Trustee Report: A written report was submitted. Don Coleman was greeted to the Trustee Board and given a tour of the church. The Trustees discussed their 2018 "To Do" list. The City of Watertown will begin recycling pickup. This will be done for \$11.73 per month.

Bruce Cochrane made a **motion** to accept all ministry area reports. Second. Motion carried. Each of the reports in their entirety is available in the church office upon request.

Old Business: River Valley History Update to Handbook: This was done by the Governing Board Secretary and will be sent to the Governing Board Vice President and Treasurer. Purge non-permanent documents: To be completed by Trustees. Church Records: The Treasurer is still in the process of scanning historical annual meetings.

Policy Committees: Worship: Pastor Zimmermann presented the Policy for Traditional Worship for approval. Bruce Cochrane made a **motion** to adopt the Policy for Traditional Worship. Second. Discussion. Motion carried. Benevolent Fund Policy: The committee is working on some guidelines and policy to help with future Benevolent activities. This will be further worked on at the February meeting.

New Business: Election of Vice Chair of the Governing Board: Greg Schroeder made a **motion** to nominate Dan Ellsworth as GB Vice Chairman. Second. Tim Beine moved to close nominations. Second. Motion carried. Dan Ellsworth is confirmed as Vice Chairman of the Governing Board, with Dave Zimmermann as Chairman. Pastor Zimmermann requests that the Vice Chairman run the Governing Board meetings. Orient New Members: Greg Schroeder met with Art Ebert to go over policies. Change Passwords: New computer password set and combination for drop safe. The Bookkeeper will be instructed to change passwords for Quick Books and Elexio. Access to Safe/Bank Bags: Done. Collect Records from Outgoing Members: Done. Annual Report to WI Dept of Financial Institutions: Done. Appoint Missions Committee: Tim Beine made a **motion** that the following people will be on the Missions Committee: Carmen Carothers, Heidi Hanus, Jane Chen, Catie Carothers, and Mike Friedl. Second. Motion carried. Gov. Board Conflict of Interest: The Conflict of Interest was signed by GB members. Corporate Resolution of Authorized Persons: This was signed by the corporate officers. Adjust Budget Based on Changes from Annual Meeting: No changes necessary. GB Secretary - Email List of Gov. Board Members: Done. Senior Pastor – Annual Report to C & MA: In process. To be completed by Feb. 21. Youth Worker Background Checks: This is to be done by Mrs. Walker. Elexio: Greg Schroeder made a **motion** to accept Proposal A for a cost of \$2,500 plus the monthly fee of \$306.25. Second. Discussion. Motion carried. Authorized counters: A **motion** was made to authorize Greg Schroeder, Tim Beine, Jen Roberts, Betsy Ellsworth, Teri Lott as counters. Second. Motion carried. Sinking Fund Policy: Treasurer Schroeder explains the Build the Future Sinking Fund policy. Greg Schroeder makes a **motion** to accept the policy as drafted. Second. Justin Roberts made a **motion** to lay this on the table. Second. Motion carried. Greg Schroeder **moved** to transfer \$10,000 into the Build the Future Sinking Fund. Second. Discussion. Motion carried.

Bruce Cochrane **motioned** to adjourn. Second. Motion carried. Justin Roberts closed the meeting in prayer. The next Governing Board meeting will be held on March 15, 2018 at 6 p.m.

The minutes contained in this report pend final approval by the Governing Board at the next formal meeting.

Charlene Flint, Governing Board Secretary
River Valley Alliance Church