

River Valley Alliance Church
Governing Board
March 19, 2020

Present: Dominic Alvarez, Matt Colosky, Jason Culotta, Charlene Flint, Diane Fraley, Todd Grady, Chris Mertens, Bill Richter, Justin Roberts, Jeremy Walker, Pastor Zimmermann

Absent:

Guests: Pastor Caleb Atkins, Pastor Michael Golemi, Jen Roberts, Robin Walker

This meeting was held via videoconferencing. The meeting was called to order at 6:03. Chris Mertens opened the meeting with a devotion from Isaiah 41:8-10 and prayer.

Previous Minutes: Jeremy Walker **moved**, Matt Colosky seconded, that the Minutes from the February 2020 Governing Board meeting be approved. **Motion passed.**

Senior Pastoral Report: A written report was submitted. This will not be a time of “less ministry” but an opportunity for even more ministry. This ministry will look very different from the normal, but the name of Jesus will continue to be raised in these difficult times as the only solution to the problems of the world. The pastoral staff is in the process of calling all members to ask them questions about how the current events are affecting them and to make sure they are aware of what River Valley is doing right now so that they can feel supported spiritually during this time. On Sundays, a service will be pre-recorded which will consist of announcements, some blended praise and worship, and a sermon. This will be posted for the first time on Sunday, March 22 at 9:30 a.m. Hopefully many will watch at this time to have some feeling of community. The pastoral staff is considering some options for people who do not have access to the internet, like perhaps a DVD. After 9:30, this service will be available to be viewed anytime during the week. Some sort of Sunday School-like online experience will be offered after the Sunday Service. Justin Roberts will be hosting the Wednesday prayer meeting online. The district conference that was to be held at River Valley will not be. Instead, the meeting will be held online. On March 22 Pastor Zimmerman will preach a stand-alone sermon on how a Jesus Follower acts during a crisis. Isaiah 40 will be the text. Cleaning and sanitizing procedures were discussed.

Disciplemaking Ministries:

Adults: A written report was submitted. Sunday Mornings for the coming weeks will have a unique video package that will include teaching for adults, youth, and children. These Bible lessons will provide quality teaching for River Valley during this time of remote meetings. All events for men’s, women’s and senior ministry will be on hiatus. Pastor Atkins has put together a wonderful studio in the east half of the all-purpose room. He will be looking into the continued use of remote meetings to facilitate fellowship and growth during this time.

Technology: In the last 30 days there have been 392 active users of River Valley’s website as well as 64 media plays.

Middle School and High School: A written report was submitted. The high school Sunday school class continues their word-by-word study through the Gospel of Matthew. Due to obvious complications (COVID-19), Pastor Golemi will be making short lessons available online going forward.

Children: A written report was submitted. On March 15 all kids' ministry was closed. Mrs. Walker emailed all the preschool and elementary parents a modified version of the lesson their kids would have done in

Discovery Land. Mrs. Walker is working on a video lesson for kids. It will most likely be a short video and attaching the lesson for parents to do with their children if they so choose. Children's Fair has been canceled. The Grand Prix was a great success with 65 racers. There were well over 100 people in attendance to cheer their kids on. Awana has been canceled until April 1, and then reevaluated after that.

Dominic Alvarez prayed for the ministry team and staff.

Impacts (International Missions) Report: A written report was submitted. Income and expenses were set forth. The status of the Thailand trip is uncertain due to current COVID 19 concerns and restrictions.

Local Missions: The Haus of Peace held a fundraiser in January 2020. Proceeds went towards the purchase of a 2013 Hyundai for transportation of guests. The Shared Missions (Food to go & grow) transition went smoothly. In the Safe Families Mission, one family member had surgery. Prayers are requested. A Trauma Training Session was held with 19 in attendance.

Justin Roberts prayed for the local and international missions.

Elder Report: A written report was submitted. At the Elder meeting, Pastor Zimmermann led a discussion on the CMA statement of faith using the John Stumbo video. They discussed any changes or adjustments that could be made in 2021. This will be ongoing discussion through 2020. Pastor Atkins gave an update on the Sunday night small group. The Elders discussed ideas to do more groups especially for families with young children.

Charlene Flint prayed for the Elders.

Service and Benevolence Report: A written report was submitted. Deposits of \$2,474.00 were made. Disbursements for February were \$251.11. The end-of-month balance for the Benevolent Fund was \$13,450.76. Benevolent requests continue to be slow, but activity will most likely be picking up drastically over the next weeks. Following all the immediate changes in daily lives due to the Covid-19 outbreak, the expectation is that many of the tasks to help people adapt are yet to come. The deacons and deaconesses request prayer for themselves as well as the pastoral staff to find ways to help our church family adjust to the many needs that will arise in the weeks ahead.

Chris Mertens prayed for the deacons and deaconesses.

Trustee Report: A written report was submitted. The basement door was replaced by Jefferson Glass on March 10. Discussion was held on the planter repair. The plowing company will be contacted to see if they will be running the repair through insurance or be repairing it themselves. The other side of the multipurpose room and the Library will be converted to LED. Once the bulbs that River Valley has are used, the Trustees will evaluate how many bulbs are needed to finish this project. The camera system is on track to hold a little over two weeks of video. By changing some of the cameras to record on motion, six weeks of recording time should easily be obtained.

Robin Walker prayed for the Trustees.

Finance Report: A written report was submitted by Diane Fraley. As of February 29, statement balances were: Checking \$95,171.30 and Money Market \$2,001.88. Credit Card Debt for February was \$5,119.09. Revenues exceeded expenses by \$7,423.72. The Build the Future Sinking Fund balance as of February 29, 2020 was \$183,205.76.

Treasurer's Report: A written report was submitted. For January and February 2020, income was 5% above budget and expenses 5.5% below budget. This positions the church to be 11% better than budget as we face the uncertain headwinds of late March and beyond. Discussion was held regarding online giving.

Justin Roberts prayed for the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and finances.

Chris Mertens presented the Governing Board monthly calendar for February, March and April.

After a prayer over the ministry reports by Jason Culotta it was **moved** by Matt Colosky to accept all ministry area reports. Second by Dominic Alvarez. **Motion passed.**

All reports are available in their entirety in the church office upon request.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Suspend Services: Pastor Zimmermann **moved** via email to Suspend Services and Meetings until April 1. Second by Justin Roberts. The **motion passed** unanimously.

Laptop Computer Purchase: Pastor Atkins' laptop computer has been rendered inoperable. By email Pastor Zimmerman **moved** to purchase a new Lenovo laptop for Pastor Caleb from Badgerland for \$1,299.99. Second by Jason Culotta. **Motion failed.** Pastor Zimmermann moved to approve the purchase of a new Lenovo laptop for Pastor Caleb at a cost not to exceed \$1000. Seconded by Todd Grady. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Brokerage Account: Diane Fraley **moved** to appoint Greg Schroeder as representative on the Brokerage Account. Second by Matt Colosky. Discussion. **Motion passed.**

CD Proceeds: Diane Fraley **moved** to Invest CD Proceeds in the Bank of Lake Mills. Charlene Flint seconds. Discussion. The Certificate of Deposit would be 1.5% for ten months, offer ends March 31. Matt Colosky **moved** to amend the motion to read "Invest CD Proceeds in the Bank of Lake Mills *if there is no penalty for early withdrawal.*" Second by Bill Richter. **Motion passed** as amended.

Caleb Atkins closed the meeting in prayer. Jeremy Walker **moved** to adjourn. Second by Dominic Alvarez. **Motion passed.** The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Flint
Governing Board Secretary
River Valley Alliance Church