

River Valley Alliance Church
Governing Board
April 16, 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, Don Vehlow, Robin Walker

This meeting was held via videoconferencing. The meeting was called to order at 6:35. Jeremy opened the meeting with a devotion from “Jesus Calling”, a reading from Isaiah 12:2, and prayer.

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

Senior Pastoral Report: A written report was submitted. This has been a challenging time, but the staff is to be commended for their dedication to Jesus and lifting His name up in so many and different ways. Everyone who calls River Valley home, members and regular attenders, were contacted by a member of the ministry team in the first two weeks of Safer at Home. Since that time, the regular attenders and members have been divided up into 20 lists and 20 lead callers will be checking in with them. Many at River Valley are being “Jesus with skin on” to the community. Seamstresses are making masks for city hall workers and their families along with anyone in the church that would like them. They are also working on gowns for doctors and nurses at the hospital. There is a list of 14 people ready to buy groceries for people who shouldn’t go out. A blood bank is being held at River Valley on May 2. People are being encouraged to do a 1 to 2-minute video on “How Jesus changed my life.” for use in the sermon on April 19. On April 26, Pastor Zimmermann will begin a series on I John. This year River Valley will review all its policies

Disciplemaking Ministries:

Adults: A written report was submitted. Pastor Atkins and Brian Gerke used the mixing board, the sanctuary pc, a webcam, microphones, and other a/v equipment to put together a usable studio space in the all-purpose room. The recording process has since been refined and improved. Typically, there is one recording day when the worship, Pastor Zimmermann’s sermon, and Pastor Atkins’ announcements/welcome are recorded. Then Pastor Atkins edits all those pieces of audio and video together to create a cohesive service that mirrors what would typically happen on a Sunday. He also creates a DVD with both the service and adult Sunday school for individuals who lack the capability or knowledge of how to access YouTube. A 12-track hymn DVD was produced to allow our 1st service attenders to worship in the style they prefer. Pastor Atkins also edited together pre-made videos, River Valley member-created reading, prayers, and worship songs to create a special Good Friday service.

Technology: There are 153 River Valley YouTube Subscribers as of 4/14/20. In the last 28 days there were 3,300 views. Overall people watched 781.6 hours.

Middle School and High School: A written report was submitted. Each week Pastor Golemi puts out 4 to 5 videos: Sunday School, Wednesday check-in, and 2-3 devotional videos for the students to watch throughout the week. For the time being Pastor Golemi will focus all his videos on the Gospel of Matthew because he doesn’t want to constantly remind people of the lock-down; he wants the students to continue to grow in their knowledge of God’s Word; and the Gospel of Matthew is a great reminder of who our

Savior is! The Sunday evening Youth Group has been meeting via Zoom. The meetings have been about an hour long and are a good chance for everyone to catch up with each other. Pastor Golemi has also been able to maintain contact with his leaders and students through WhatsApp (RVAC Students group). This has been a great chance for Pastor Golemi to get to know a few of the more introverted students a bit more closely while continuing to grow in his relationships with everyone.

Children: A written report was submitted. Sunday Discovery Land at home has been happening each Sunday. Appleton Alliance has been producing an elementary lesson each Sunday that includes kids' worship, discovery time, and a lesson. The target age of this is 3rd through 5th grade. This was too long and too in-depth for the preschoolers. Mrs. Walker and Ella created a preschool Discovery Land including worship, puppet shows, discovery time, and a shorter, more age-appropriate lesson time for preschoolers. Mrs. Walker also videos daily activities that kids/families can do together if they need an 'idea' for the day, as well as Wednesday Devotions for Kids', which is a modified version of the Awana lesson that is linked to Sunday's Discovery Land lesson. On Fridays Mrs. Walker has been reading families' different favorite books online. Mrs. Walker also has been connecting with many families over text, phone, and Facebook just checking in and seeing how their kids are doing.

Matt Colosky prayed for the ministry team and staff.

Impacts (International Missions) Report: An oral report was given. (See Elder Report)

Local Missions: An oral report was given. Due to Covid 19, the local missions have slowed to a halt.

Elder Report: A written report was submitted. The Elders are leading a virtual prayer meeting 6 nights per week via Zoom. These have been very well attended by 10-20 people each evening at 6pm. The status of the Thailand short-term mission trip is uncertain due to current COVID 19 concerns and restrictions. The thought is that the trip will be unlikely, and the Elders are advising the Impacts team to propose a plan B.

Service and Benevolence Report: A written report was submitted. Deposits of \$3,433.00 were made. Disbursements for February were \$867.60. The end-of-month balance for the Benevolent Fund was \$15,969.87. An intake form has been drafted that would help gather information up front and reduce the time needed and allow for the prioritization of needs. The normal functions of this committee are put to the side and they are now spending their energies connecting people who are willing to help with people who need help.

Trustee Report: A written report was submitted. Trustees did not meet this month due to the Corona Virus. Do Right Concrete and Theder Landscaping will be repairing the planter in two to three weeks. LED light conversion has been paused until after the pandemic is over. An extra hard drive has been purchased for the DVR system.

Finance Report: A written report was submitted by Diane Fraley. As of March 31, statement balances were: Checking \$93,533.26 and Money Market \$5,395.67. Credit Card Debt for March was \$4,452.19. Revenues exceeded expenses by \$1,755.75. The Build the Future Sinking Fund balance as of March 31, 2020 was \$184,265.91. Four CD's were cashed in and put into one CD at the Bank of Lake Mills.

Treasurer's Report: A written report was submitted. For the first quarter of 2020, income was nearly 6% above budget and expenses 3% below budget. This places the church at \$13,700, or 9%, better than budget and in a stable position as we face the continued challenges of the current public health crisis. The annual review of 2019 books will be rescheduled.

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

After a prayer over the ministry reports by Pastor Atkins it was **moved** by Jason Culotta 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

Water Heater: Pastor Zimmermann **moved** via email that a water heater for the west wing be purchased from and installed by Richter Heating and Cooling at a cost not to exceed \$1,900. Second by Todd Grady. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Blood Bank: Pastor Zimmermann **moved** via email to allow Versiti Blood Center to use River Valley facilities for the purposes of conducting a Blood Drive on Saturday, May 2, 2020. They would have access to the lower level of the building from 6:30am-5:00pm on that day. Second by Diane Fraley. **Motion passed** unanimously.

New Bank: Jason Culotta **moved** to name Ixonia State Bank as the primary financial institution for River Valley, pending written confirmation to waive fees as discussed. Second by Diane Fraley. **Motion passed.**

Justin Roberts closed the meeting in prayer. Jason Culotta **moved** to adjourn. Second by Justin Roberts. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Flint
Governing Board Secretary
River Valley Alliance Church