



GOVERNING BOARD IN PERSON MEETING

October 20, 2021

7:00 pm

Bob McKnight	Kathy Breazeale	DiAnn Wiley
Roger Curless	Pastor John Bell	Mary Terrell
Wally Loague by zoom		Jim Merk

Worship- DiAnn opened the meeting with thoughts from Ann Lamott. Grace, Beauty, listen and hear and turn to the saints. Do small things with great love, like Mother Theresa. Smile, get water, pick up liter. Resistance does change hearts. Ghandi made sandals in prison. Freedom fighters don't always win, but they are right. Ghandi & Smoots overthrew an empire. Our prayer was from A Fresh Expression's book.

Minutes – All previous minutes are posted.

Pastor John debrief on last Sermon Series on Dr. Anderson's book. Thoughts are that our church develops rules, which undermines our own best interest. For example: The AIDS epidemic. The church reaches out with clinics and resources but doesn't endorse the community – it is not welcome in our churches. The Church doesn't shift enough to reach the people who are not there. We are fighting the culture of "it has to be this way". A question was raised – is a fully inclusive community really possible? Yes, maybe if everyone wore a sign..... Perfection is not here yet. How do we walk together on the journey?

Governing Board Yearly Interview schedule – with Pastor John, Roger Curless & congregational representative TBD

10:00 DiAnn

11:00 Kathy

12:00 Lunch

1:30 Jim

2:30 Wally

3:30 Bob

4:30 Mary

Discussion on the Post Quarantine Church

Questions we can ask for the coming year. 1. Gather differently and better. 2. Seize the opportunity to reach then digital world 3. Reconnect with the community near the church 4. Take prayer to a new and powerful level 5. Rethink the facilities for emerging opportunities 6. Make lasting changes that will make a difference.

Key Changes for the Post Quarantine Church 1. Simplicity will be vitally important. Focus on doing a few things well both digitally and in person 2. Only outwardly focused churches will survive 3. Worship service gatherings will be smaller 4. “Multi” will multiply. Multi services, multi locations, multi gatherings to meet the needs of the people around the church will need to increase 5. Staff and leadership realignment will focus more on digital proficiency 6. “Stragglers” will become a subject of outreach and focus. “Stragglers ” are defined as those who were marginally involved with the church. Post-pandemic churches will need to focus on pre-pandemic stragglers 7. Digital worship services will be newly purposed 8. Ministry training will change dramatically 9. Pastors will leave their lead positions for second chair roles (too much for 1 person to lead).

What Hasn’t changed in the post pandemic church? 1. The Bible is still the word of God 2. Christ is still the way to salvation 3. Prayer is still vital 4. Evangelism is still a mandate 5. The God we serve is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Coordinators – Beatriz Jaramillo has resigned as Outreach Coordinator. We still do not have a Discipleship Coordinator. We have been struggling to fill these positions. Other coordinators have absorbed some of the tasks and work.

Administrative – The People for Child Care equipment and Materials need to be taken out of our building as the program has been shut down by director. A letter was sent asking them to commit to a removal timeline. We have been in contact with a Board member, Polly Mittag. We will now have approximately 20,00 square feet that will be available for space and cost sharing with other entities. Pastor John has been in contact with the City of Aurora concerning shared workspace for Non-for-Profit startups. City provides resources, we provide space.

Outreach – Michelle will be in charge of a Native American Blanket Exercise with a special speaker on Nov 7. Trunk or Treat is Sunday, Oct. 24.

Children & Family – Michelle has 7 confirmands in confirmation class.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service – Nov. 21 @ 3:00 at St. John’s AME or Society 57.

Stewardship Campaign – theme is “Being Thankful”. We will be showing personalized videos. Nov. 21st will be Consecration Sunday. A narrative Budget will be going out to congregation. A suggestion was made that every day, on social media, we post something we are thankful for.

Finance – 2022 Budget Timeline – After the Stewardship Campaign the 2022 budget will be developed. A discussion is needed on Apportionments as to where we will send them in 2022.

Trustee Report – Jim reported that the AV studio is basically done. Speakers are backordered and internet needs to be extended to 3rd floor. Video system almost finished.

Other concerns – Landscaping work on NW side of parking Lot? A wire needs to be replaced.

Organ damage report – everything is pending with our insurance company. Trustees are also seeking bids for repair of sanctuary wall, estimated to be around \$6,000.00. The 3rd floor landing also has plaster issues caused by leaking.

Old Business

Re-opening Survey – After several weeks have passed by worshiping on our new schedule, we need to think of survey questions to go out possible asking our people 1. Why did they come back? 2. Why haven't we seen them? 3. Other questions to be thinking about?

Annual Church Conference with District Superintendent will be Wednesday Dec. 8. –6:00pm SPRC meeting, 7pm congregational meeting.

The Governing Board moved to Executive session.

Mary Terrell closed the meeting in prayer at 9:15 pm. From Psalm 51:13-19. We need to help each other. It's not easy, but we are given the gift of resilience. King David did a bad thing, but he had confidence in his relationship with God. Help me, forgive me, but don't leave me.

The next meeting will be Wed. Nov 17 @ 7:00 – In Person. Opening worship and Closing prayers were not assigned.