

St. Peter's First Community Church Council Minutes
June 8, 2021

Members present: Megan Condry, Megan Engle, Adrian Halverstadt, Doyle Krieg, Andy Miller, Adam Myers, Jenna Strick, Sam Sutorius

Jenna Strick opened the meeting in prayer.

Andy Miller shared a devotion with the SPFCC Council.

SPFCC Council minutes from April 2021 were approved.

Adam Myers shared that the Property Team has a proposal for bats to be removed from St. Pete's. The Property Team is moving forward with steps for bat removal. The Property Team has a proposal for painting and carpeting in Fellowship Hall. The total amount is \$16,784. The Property Team proposes to have a Special Congregational Meeting in three weeks on July 4, 2021. The SPFCC Council approved the Property Team's proposal for a Special Congregational Meeting to be held on July 4. Council decided to mail ballots to all SPFCC members and ask for ballots to be in the church office by July 1. Megan Engle will run this announcement in the bulletin this Sunday, June 13, 2021. Adam Myers will send Megan Engle wording for a letter to SPFCC members with ballots. Megan Engle will get letters, ballots, and a return stamped envelope in the mail to SPFCC members next week.

Doyle Krieg shared that the Men's Team hopes to begin meeting again in August. Doyle will have surgery on July 8th. SPFCC will not be serving as a Heritage Days food vendor this year.

Jenna Strick shared that the Teaching Team met with Janet Branham on May 23rd about possibly becoming a Teaching Team member. The Teaching Team continues to oversee Bible Study and evening prayer. The Bible Study time on Tuesdays will be led by Jenna Strick, Megan Condry, and Megan Engle. Jenna Strick shared that the Teaching Team will meet at the end of summer. The Teaching Team will also consider preparing an Advent and/or Lenten devotional this year. Adam Myers asked about whether or not St. Pete's has thought about having a Vacation Bible School for children. Megan Condry shared that some years St. Pete's has had Kids' Summer Fun events instead of Vacation Bible School.

Sam Sutorius shared that the Women's Team does not have any updates. Sam is recuperating from school being over. The Women's Team hopes to have events soon.

Andy Miller shared that the Missions Team is working on missionary highlights from the missionaries St. Pete's supports. There has been a little bit more usage of the Samaritan Fund. The Samaritan Fund purchased a \$500 gas card for the family that suffered a fire.

Adrian Halverstadt shared that the Finance Team is continuing to oversee the finances for SPFCC. St. Pete's paid \$11,000 for insurance renewal in May, which is an annual fee, so that skews the May finance report. Adrian is continuing to encourage the Finance Team to setup an endowment/investment fund committee. The next step will be to set up a meeting with an investment firm. SPFCC made a donation to the baccalaureate service at Huntington North High School. Adrian asked if turning off the boilers at SPFCC helped with the water leak mentioned previously at a Council meeting. Adam Myers said that turning off the boilers did help. There may still be a small leak, and the Property Team is monitoring it. Adam Myers also shared that the Property Team will do a walk through inspection of the parsonage once the Hesses leave. There was some discussion about considering making an additional bathroom or a master suite at the parsonage.

Megan Condry shared that the kids are continuing to do things to stay connected as they have been. Graduation Sunday last week went well. Opening children's classes back up in the fall is a consideration. There is potential

that children's classes will not be every Sunday. Adam Myers asked if the Property Team should put air conditioning window units back in the children's classrooms. Megan Condry said this is not needed yet. Adam Myers mentioned that the Property Team is considering adding an air cooling system as opposed to window units. Right now, the overflow area is not cooled. Megan Condry shared that the youth will transition to in person meetings for summer. Homework Help received full funding from United Way. Homework Help finished the school year and had a great end to it. The relational connections at Homework Help continue to be important. Cheyenne, a Homework Help student, will go to Indiana Wesleyan University this fall, and prayers for her are appreciated.

Megan Engle shared on behalf of Ann Ambler that the Fellowship Team had a new members reception and hosted the Hess reception in May.

Some information was shared about the exit interview with Zen, and thanks was given, as Zen had spoken in the exit interview, to Megan Condry and Megan Engle for their work. There is a lot of teamwork between SPFCC staff.

There was discussion about the 3-5 year plan for St. Pete's. Some ideas in regard to the plan were stated, such as it would help to put a spending amount for projects into the plan, job functions/roles for Megan Condry and Megan Engle should be evaluated as part of the plan, etc. Council is interested in how it can function to facilitate growth of the staff.

Jenna Strick gave a Pulpit Committee update. Three candidates for the pastor position will be having second round interviews with the Pulpit Committee in mid-June. Adrian Halverstadt shared that the plan is not to have multiple candidates preach for the congregation. The final candidate will preach the Sunday before a congregational vote. SPFCC is still on track to hire a new pastor in August. Many thanks were given to those serving on the SPFCC Pulpit Committee. Prayers for the interviews next week are appreciated.

Covid-19 policies at St. Pete's are that SPFCC is no longer requiring masks for fully vaccinated individuals. Masks are still recommended for adults who have not yet been fully vaccinated. SPFCC is now passing pew pads, is no longer requiring social distancing, etc. Dr. Pflieger, the Huntington County Health Department doctor, feels comfortable with children not wearing masks at this point. Adam Myers asked about passing offering and communion plates. The answer was given that the offering plate not being passed is due to lack of volunteers to serve in the usher role. Megan Engle asked Adam to please let her know if he has ideas on ushers and other volunteers. Megan Engle and the Fellowship Team have reached out to several potential volunteers, but have not had success in securing additional volunteers.

A question was asked about who will serve on a sub-committee for the 3-5 year plan. A suggestion was made that maybe once a new pastor is hired, we can brainstorm with him or her about next steps for the plan. For now, keep thinking and dreaming, and keep a running list of ideas with your team.

A discussion was had about connection points for congregants in the interim between pastors. It was suggested that the Sunday the pastoral candidate comes to preach, St. Pete's could have a food truck. Other ideas for connection are a picnic in the park, homemade ice cream social, splash pad gathering, etc. An outdoor worship service will be held at St. Pete's on June 20th which hopefully helps draw some people to worship that day.

The next Council gathering will be held on July 13th, and it was suggested that an informal gathering be held that date instead of a formal meeting. The SPFCC Council decided to meet at Drover Park with the splash pad at 6 p.m. on July 13th for a meal and to invite all Council families to be included in this gathering, too. A grill will be brought to the park for cooking burgers, and Council members can bring side dishes. No meeting will be held unless something urgent requires a brief meeting. Megan Engle will send a list of who wants to bring what side dishes, etc.

It was suggested that Council members let Megan Engle know the best way to get ahold of him or her.

Prayers for Council members or Council teams are as follows:

*Adam Myers shared praise for the Property Team's passion, drive, wisdom, and thankfulness for the good God is doing

*Andy Miller shared that a prayer for the Missions Team is that people feel welcomed and at home at St. Pete's

*Doyle Krieg shared that a prayer for/from the Men's Team is that St. Pete's would be open minded

*wisdom for guest preachers

*acceptance and how to settle into what this season offers.

Andy Miller prayed over these requests. The meeting was closed with Council members together praying The Lord's Prayer.