

St. Peter's First Community Church Council Minutes  
September 14, 2021

Members present: Ann Ambler, Megan Condry, Megan Engle, Adrian Halverstadt, Adam Jones, Andy Miller, Adam Myers, David Morrison, Katie Schilling, Jenna Strick

David Morrison called the meeting to order. Andy Miller opened the meeting with prayer. SPFCC Council minutes from June 2021 and August 2021 were approved.

David Morrison nominated Katie Schilling for the role of Women's Team leader. Council approved this nomination.

Adam Myers shared that the Property Team made the repairs outside the church to eliminate bats from getting inside. The next steps to fix that issue can now be taken. Painting of Fellowship Hall is completed. Carpet in Fellowship Hall will likely be put in over fall break. Adam Myers asked if there are other volunteers who may want to help with putting Fellowship Hall back together after painting. Katie Schilling mentioned connecting with the City Volunteer Coordinator, Megan Thompson. Adam Myers shared that the Property Team prepared the parsonage for Adam and Jess to move in. Adam asked to have a thank you announcement put in the bulletin thanking all of those who helped prepare and clean the parsonage. Megan Engle will include this in the bulletin this Sunday. Adam Myers stated that one of the next projects for the Property Team will be upgrading air conditioning. Adam asked about where funds come from for these projects and if they should be included in the 2022 budget. It was stated that project funds come from the building fund. Funds for maintenance of the property come from the budget. Adrian Halverstadt said that the current building and improvement fund has \$5,000. Two possible projects for the Property Team are putting air conditioning in the overflow area for a cost of \$7,500 or so and putting new air conditioning in the Fellowship Hall and sanctuary for a cost of \$75,000 or so. There was some discussion about how funding is approved and what needs to be approved by Council, the congregation, etc. There was a suggestion that some funds from the unified budget could be put in the building and improvement fund each month. The hope is to be forming a 3-5 year comprehensive plan that covers some of these projects Adam Myers has shared.

Ann Ambler shared that the Fellowship Team hosted an event for a group of St. Pete's folks to attend a Fort Wayne TinCaps game on August 29<sup>th</sup>. 20 people attended. The TinCaps offered four free tickets to a TinCaps game in April 2022 as a thank you for bringing a group to a game. Ann Ambler took Pastor Adam Jones to meet SPFCC shut-in friends and met with four of them. They took communion to these shut-in friends, too. There are three new members on the Fellowship Team. The Fellowship Team is revamping some things and talking about new ideas.

Jenna Strick shared that the Teaching Team will meet with Pastor Adam on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Sharon Metzger and Danielle Shafer are no longer on the team, but Matt Webb and Janet Branham have joined the team.

Adrian Halverstadt shared that he met with Barb Derr and Becky Lyons to go through the budget. Adrian Halverstadt highlighted some of the differences between the 2021 and 2022 budget. Full time staff will receive a contribution of \$2,000 to their retirement fund beginning in 2022. The intern for Homework Help is changing to a Homework Help assistant. A question was asked about whether or not SPFCC wants to set new project amounts in the budget for 2022. The total budget is up a flat six percent from 2021 to 2022. There was some discussion about Adam Jones's salary remaining the same from 2021 to 2022 since he is coming in the middle of the year. Council agreed to keep Adam Jones's salary the same in 2022 as it is in 2021. The Property Team will roll out a plan for all upcoming projects. At this point, no funding will be set aside for 2022 projects. There was a motion to approve the budget for 2022 with the one change of Adam Jones's salary remaining the same as it is in 2021. The motion was seconded. The budget with this one change was approved by Council.

Andy Miller shared that Lindsey Newton will be coming to town on October 10<sup>th</sup> and will see if she can stop by St. Pete's. The Millers are having a campout hosting guys from Moody Bible College in a couple weeks. St. Pete's is supporting this campout with food donations. The Samaritan Fund funds are being used to support the community.

David Morrison asked for anyone to please share with the Worship Team any feedback they have or hear from the congregation in regard to worship. The new format for worship is working alright. The Worship Team is working on streamlining the planning process for worship and is working on planning further ahead. There was discussion about options for communion. There are pouches with bread and juice all in one to be offered as an option. There was discussion about whether we can offer both communion by intinction and the pouches to those who would like them. Council members should reflect and pray on this and discuss with their teams and report back what they think is the best solution going forward. There has been a request for large print bulletins. Megan Engle will begin printing large print bulletins.

Adam Myers shared that the Property Team also fixed the noise that was happening in the elevator.

Megan Condry shared that things are continuing as they have been happening for the last year with children's ministry such as story time, etc. Sunday morning classes for children will be phasing in this fall. Families are worshipping together on communion Sundays. The Children's Team is working on preparing fall activities. Party at the Park will be happening this Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. The Children's Team wrapped up organizing meals to the Nicholsons. The Children's Team celebrated Clara Gatchel's baptism last month. The youth enjoyed meeting in person through the summer months. Cheyenne from the youth group has gone to college. Options for the youth in the fall are being explored. Homework Help has been meeting for a month this fall. Megan Condry connected with the family she mentioned last month. God has been at work and is answering prayer. Volunteers are needed for Homework Help. Prayers for volunteers are appreciated. There are 20 students attending Homework Help and three students on the waiting list. The SPFCC congregation has been generous with snack and drink donations. Prayers for a Homework Help student who is going through a difficult time are appreciated.

Adam Jones shared that the transition is going well. SPFCC is well run, and he is appreciative of the congregational involvement. The Psalm series will wrap up on October 10<sup>th</sup>. There may be a discipleship series for six weeks and then it will be Advent. Pastor Adam made a pastoral care database to track who needs prayers and action items and location of congregants. Adam is trying to get to know people in the congregation and community. Work is being done to update the website. Adam has talked to Our Sunday Visitor about updating it and will work on getting new email accounts set up, too. There was some discussion about the website. Council should approve any large website updates.

All on Council are planning to remain on Council for 2022, so no nominating committee is needed this year.

SPFCC's Covid policies seem to be alright as they currently are now. Masks are highly recommended during worship services at St. Pete's but are not required. Once Huntington County is in the blue category according to the Covid-19 dashboard report for two weeks, masks will no longer be needed.

The Finance Team made the recommendation to set the housing allowance for Pastor Adam at \$10,000. This recommendation was approved by Council. This decision is made and approved annually for tax purposes.

The Congregational Meeting will be held on November 21, 2021. Voting by text will be available for this meeting.

The SPFCC Council would like more information from outside consultants in regard to 3-5 year planning. Megan Engle will get updated information from the Center for Congregations and will get quotes from the

outside consultants recommended then will report this information back to Council. Jenna Strick will also reach out to two contacts she has who may be able to help St. Pete's with strategic planning.

The possibility of the annual steak supper was mentioned. Typically the steak supper does not generate much profit. It is probably too late to do a steak supper in November this year. Apple dumplings do make a good profit. Another possibility is a ham loaf fundraiser that the Women's Team began working on a few years ago.

The SPFCC Council is celebrating Adam Jones being here as pastor at St. Pete's!

There was a request to meet elsewhere instead of in the back of the sanctuary for future meetings due to difficulty to hear in this location.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.