

FINAL

Epiphany Lutheran Church Church Council Meeting March 11, 2025

Attendance: Pastor Brad Gee, Ray Holmes, Cindy Ganem, Ashley Turner, Jeff McCullough

Excused: Dianne Mawhirter, Lynn Rigelman, William Lytle, Dell Moller, Josh Thornton, Mike Poyer

Guest: Ian Boden

Call to Order: Ray called the meeting to order.

Devotion/Prayer: Pastor Brad opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer.

Council Minutes/Approval: The February 11, 2025 Minutes were previously posted in the shared folder for review. Since Council did not have a quorum present, the vote to approve these Minutes was moved to the March meeting.

Treasurer's Report/Approval for January and February 2025: Josh previously sent these reports to Council for review and they are posted in the shared folder. Since Council did not have a quorum present, the vote to approve these reports was moved to the March meeting.

Pastor's Time: Pastor Brad shared a presentation from the previous Strategic Planning Team on expanding Epiphany's facility. The presentation, dated February 2019, highlighted data gathered from a questionnaire completed by the congregation. The data showed the level of interest in the project at that time and what the future expansion might include (community center, more storage, enlarge current kitchen space, etc.). Pastor Brad will add this presentation to the shared folder for everyone to review. The Executive Committee will meet to develop next steps.

Committee Reports:

Congregational Events: Aug. 16 will be the second annual End of Summer Bash.

Finance: In his March 8th, Josh advised we are running a deficit of \$22,222 so far in 2025. He wanted Council to be aware and if this trend continues as we get closer to summer (historically lower giving months), we will need to reach out to the congregation. At the meeting, Council noted the March 9th Sunday receipts were much better and reduced the deficit to around \$9,000.

Preschool Board: The Preschool passed the licensing inspection with flying colors! Twenty-six children are already registered for the 2025-26 school year and registration will now be open to the public. Director Elaine Schroeder is holding early literacy sessions for those children who are ready to begin learning to read. As to the outdoor space: It doesn't appear that

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the free equipment from Diley Middle School will hold up to being transported and installed at our location; and, Elaine is preparing a letter to the Mission Endowment Fund Committee to ask for funds to help pay for the space expansion.

Property: Cindy saw Roger McLoney earlier this week and he said the owner of Stedman Flooring came out to re-measure the Quad and Nursery room spaces. This has resulted in a lower estimate and includes redoing the carpet on the Nursery door.

Social Services: LLS advised they continue to get rave reviews from clients on the larger string bag kits that we donated. We developed a list and are asking folks to donate one food item each day for the 40 days in Lent to keep our Blessing Box filled. Diaper Drive for the Diaper Bank will run April 6 - May 12. Mary's Circle will be assembling Sunshine Bags for our shut-ins at their April 14 meeting. Hoops for Haiti is kicking off.

Welcome & Outreach: The annual Backyard Party will be held on July 3rd welcoming the community to watch Pickerington's fireworks from our lawn; they are hoping to have a couple of food trucks for that party. Are planning to purchase plastic travel mugs for our welcome bags to replace the current coffee mugs. Will be coordinating with the coffee hosts on Sunday, April 6th, to decorate and supply goodies for the New Member Reception on that day.

Children, Youth & Family: March events include Little Lights prepping for Easter, FUSION learning about Lent, Confirmation learning about the Apostles Creed. On Sunday, March 16th, Senior High will share dinner and worship at Jacob's Porch and the Young Adult Care Packages will be assembled at 10a in the HMOC. Family Fun Night at Get Air on March 12th. Senior and Junior High youth will attend the April 6th Comedy Night Fundraiser hosted by the Pickerington Community Theater.

New / Old Business:

- Carpet replacement in Quad and Nursery rooms. See Property report.
- Jacob's Porch Trustee. Dianne has a person she will be reaching out to about filling this position.

Strategic Planning:

- Current Space. There was good discussion on this subject at Council's Feb. 22nd Retreat (see Ray's notes in the shared folder). Dianne will be scheduling a meeting by the end of March with Ray, Lynn, Pastor Brad, Jeff Mitchell and Ali Adams to get their input.
- Communication. This project is to create a vision and plan to enhance our current set up (see Ray's notes from the Council Retreat). Pastor Brad will be scheduling a meeting by next month with Will, Dell, Jeff, and Jeff Mitchell.

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- Facility Expansion. See Pastor's Time section of these Minutes for more information on this potential project. He will upload the 2019 presentation and notes to the shared folder for all to review.

Action Items:

- 1) Pastor Brad to schedule a meeting with the Executive Committee to develop next steps on the possibility of a facility expansion.
- 2) **ALL** to review notes from Council's Retreat and be prepared to discuss further at the next meeting.
- 3) Dianne to schedule a meeting before the end of March for the Current Space project.
- 4) Pastor Brad to schedule a meeting by next month on the Communication project.
- 5) **ALL** to review 2019 facility expansion presentation/notes and be prepared to discuss further at the next meeting.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, April 8th, at 7:00p. Ray will have the devotion.

Adjournment: Ray led Council in the Lord's Prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Ganem

Cindy Ganem, Secretary