

St. Peter's First Community Church Council Minutes
March 9, 2021

Members present: Megan Condry, Megan Engle, Adrian Halverstadt, Zen Hess, Doyle Krieg, Andy Miller, David Morrison, Adam Myers, Jenna Strick, Samantha Sutorius

Andy Miller opened the SPFCC Council meeting with prayer.

SPFCC Council minutes from February 2021 were approved.

David Morrison asked for team leaders to share their team reports.

Adam Myers shared that the Property Team has been working on carpeting in the overflow room. Lighting will be worked on in March. Numbers on the outside doors are up. SPFCC has continued with the pest control company it was using. The Property Team has been doing other maintenance and repairs. The Team is working on signage for the church. If there are maintenance items that need to be addressed, let Adam know. Pastor Zen shared that he is thankful for the Property Team and the work that the Team is doing. Adam Myers shared that the Property Team is hoping to get outside companies to come in for larger projects. Adam also mentioned the need to work on landscaping at the church and wondered if any other team, such as the Women's Team, would be interested in helping with that, too. Megan Condry and Zen Hess shared that Barb Derr could possibly be a point person for landscaping and planting flowers, etc.

Doyle Krieg shared that the Men's Team is hoping to get together in May for a meeting. The Men's Team recently helped someone move.

Jenna Strick shared that the Lenten practice of silence group is going well. The group has eight individuals meeting on Zoom on Sundays at 7:30 p.m. to share what they are learning about themselves and about God through their practice of silence.

Sam Sutorius shared that a couple members of the Women's Team are helping provide meals to the vaccine clinic workers. The Women's Team is hoping to do some church events soon.

Adrian Halverstadt shared that, for the Finance Team, he is working on collecting documents for the PPP loan.

David Morrison shared that the Worship Team has continued to have worship services led well by Pastor Zen. SPFCC will be transitioning to in-person worship services. Pastor Zen shared that starting this Sunday, March 14, 2021, SPFCC will follow the same procedures for in-person worship as were followed in October for these services. This means continuing to require masks for everyone, maintaining social distance of six feet, overflow space being used for kids, FH set up to livestream the service, windows open, etc. The Worship Team will meet on March 28th to reevaluate. A survey will be sent on Thursday of this week to see about how many SPFCC congregants plan to attend in-person worship. There will be no childcare at this point. The Worship Team will consider outdoor worship services once it is a little warmer outside.

Andy Miller shared that the Missions Team is picking days to serve meals to the vaccine clinic workers. Andy thanked the Women's Team and Fellowship Team for assisting with providing these meals. Andy Miller shared that there is a need for transportation for an individual in Huntington needing to get to Fort Wayne and back daily for a couple weeks to be with her husband. If someone would be interested in helping meet this need, please let Andy know. Andy shared that there is also an opportunity to support Brian and Betka Reynolds right now as Betka fell and injured her ACL. They are needing help covering the expenses of ACL surgery for her.

Megan Engle shared for the Fellowship Team on behalf of Ann Ambler. The Fellowship Team prepared meals for Cindy Hildebrand and the Whitesells after recent hospital stays for these congregants. The Fellowship Team touches base with SPFCC families who have had someone in their family recently stay in the hospital to see if the family would like meals to be provided. The Fellowship Team sends out cards on a monthly basis to those on a thinking of you list. Sympathy and support cards are sent to those in need, as well. The Fellowship Team has begun gathering items for Easter bags for SPFCC's shut-in friends. The Fellowship Team encourages the St. Pete's family to bring cards to church for our shut-in friends to be put into the Easter bags. The Fellowship Team is excited to meet in person.

Megan Condry shared that the Winter Celebration on Zoom for kids went well. The kids were comfortable being in their own home space. The celebration was fun, and positive feedback was received about the gathering. The Children's Team is continuing with growth opportunities for kids and is working to provide kid-friendly, unique ideas. The Children's Team is providing worship guides for families and will have treat bags for kids at in-person worship. The Children's Team coordinated meals for the Gatchel family. The youth have continued meeting virtually. Megan Condry shared that she is working on the United Way grant for Homework Help. Prayers with that are appreciated. The Homework Help students are growing in their studies, and some students have gone from failing classes to having C grades in their classes. The Homework Help virtual option continues. One of the Homework Help students has now been accepted to three colleges. SPFCC's generosity in providing snacks is appreciated. Megan Condry shared that she continues to work with staff and others at St. Pete's. Megan Condry shared that she is working on Lenten check-in videos from congregants about their Lenten practices to share with the congregation throughout this season.

Pastor Zen shared that in his report this month he put an accounting of how he spends his time each week. Pastor Zen shared that the Ash Wednesday service of bell tolling with other churches, etc. went well and has 280 views on YouTube. He has been working on Lent promotional videos. Pastor Zen did a discussion/interview at Place of Grace to share information with the community. He is collaborating with Tommi Tucker on how the church year is an image of discipleship. He is preparing for in-person worship. Pastor Zen worked with area pastors to write articles of lament for The TAB, and he continues to build relationships with and work with other area churches. St. Pete's will continue to try to draw people into this season with Scripture reading, etc.

Items for Discussion:

Covid-19 procedures at St. Pete's: These procedures were discussed previously during the Worship Team update. It was asked if anyone has questions in this regard. A question about whether or not we would meet in person if we are in the orange advisory status this week according to the Covid-19 dashboard report for the state. The answer was given that if this is to happen, St. Pete's may get input from local health officials. There was some additional discussion about the benefits of livestreaming the worship services but the joy it is to be in person for services.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.