

Session Agenda

Date .

7:00pm Devotion and Prayer

7:10pm Correspondence - to and from -

Approve previous minutes

Adjust the docket if needed

- Receive the included reports - these reports will go into the minutes
- Approve the Docket

Business -

7:15pm Review Finances

7:25pm

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8:25pm Prayer

8:30pm Adjourn

Written Reports - *These reports are from an actual church board meeting. They are meant to give you an idea of length and substance.*

Building and Grounds - Name of Liaison (Meetings are:)

B&G met on Monday, February 1, 2021. The following items were discussed:

- Outside lock into sanctuary/office area. Looking into options.
- Handicap Ramp. Meetings are being held with architects/engineers to determine best solution
- Downstairs sink bids obtained with work to be scheduled in the near future
- Playground Bridge to be completed in the spring
- Church front roof balusters/spindles to be taken down in the spring

Christian Education - Deacon Michele White (third Wednesday of the month).

Christian Education - We have completed the Dream Catcher Project and are meeting soon to plan the next phase of "Sunday School" with our youth. Our goal is to continue to keep the children actively involved with our worship services. We plan on meeting the week of 2/15/21 to plan upcoming events and brainstorm for future activities.

Presbytery - Elder Bud Tunison is our Representative

Communication - Elder Sara Haviland, VP of Consistory (twice year/ February and August)

The Communications Committee had it's semi-annual meeting in Feb. Topics discussed included new campaigns for 2021: (possibly) Easter, Back to Church, Introducing the New Pastor, and Advent/Christmas. We are also commissioning a new neighbor campaign to increase community outreach; the committee is currently looking into the logistics for that. We are concerned that our budget for 2021 is insufficient to support a proper launch for a new pastor.

Congregational Nurture - Vacant

Congregational Nurture met with the Mission Study team this past week. They are also helping with the Worship series for Lent, Baking with the Bible. Several of the bakers in our church community will be doubling and tripling the weekly recipes so that others can "put it an order" for pick up on Saturdays before Sunday worship. First week of Lent/ First batch of Bread = February 21.

Finance and Stewardship - Elder Diane Clapp (Second Monday of the month)

The committee met with the Mission Study Team.

We are looking into a PPP loan but are unsure we qualify since we have not lost enough income during the pandemic.

We bega a "todo" list for 2021: Fix the accounting read out for the "in and out" accounts to be more clear, let the congregation know of the Classis dues, \$85/member, Create a giving guide that includes estate planning.

Learning Center - Director Andrea Schmidt (Last Monday of October, January, June, August)

Mike and Maggie Savard, one of our SLC families, joined our church service on January 31 st . They are very excited to get to know our community and enroll their children, Melanie and Tommy, in Sunday School once things start to get back to normal. Personnel will be reviewing mid-year evaluations soon. Andrea and Gina Nelessen are exploring safe fund raiser events to be held outside this spring.

Mission - Deacon Tanya Tuccillo

Mission Study/Pastor Search Team - Elder Donna Herb (every other Wednesday)

The congregational survey is complete. The team has begun analyzing the data. During February, we will be visiting each committee to gather more data. In March, we will hold focus groups. If there is a focus group you'd like to see us schedule, please let us know. (A Focus group might be: families with young children, neighbors of SRC, choir or those interested in music at SRC, etc.)

Nominating and Personnel - Elder Bud Tunison (begins its work in March/April)

Worship - Kate Morris (Fourth Monday of the month)

-**Holy Trail** was a great success! If we do it again next year, should we start planning around Easter for the first week of December? The cost was >\$300.

-**Attendance** has been up but not always at 10:00. The Zoom service on 1/31 proved that wrong and the following Sundays have shown even more attendance and new faces! (YAY)

-Ash Wednesday 3/17 Pastor Beth is providing a short online service for those interested.

-Easter Sunday 4/4 - We hope to be outdoors and are considering hanging banners from the rafters.

-Palm Sunday 3/27 - The children will be passing out palms

-Good Friday - We are planning a Last Supper service on zoom. We are looking at past scriptures and finding participants.

-Lent Bread Theme - We will send out 6 bread recipes to represent the Bread of Life that the participants can bake.

-Brass for Easter - Unanimous YES!

-Choir Will not be meeting in person yet, because of the age of most of the members.

-Becky's celebration of life is on 2/19, let's share recipes,

-Our next meeting is 2/22 (this is a reminder more for myself since I mixed up last month!) A Mission Study member will be at our next meeting

Pastor's Report

The Mission Study team is working hard to gather information about the congregation so that we have the clearest picture of who we are. The most important thing I have learned so far as your Interim (and remember this is my first Interim position) is that when a congregation is looking for a pastor, there are three questions that get in the way of one another:

- What kind of pastor do we *want*?
- What kind of pastor do we *like*?
- What kind of pastor do we *need*?

The third question is the one that matters most. It's not that what we want or what we like isn't good to talk about. But ultimately, we want to create a "job ad" that will attract the pastor who can best provide the leadership we need right now.

I'm intrigued by what gets into the way of looking for what we need. One thing is nostalgia and the hard work of grief to let go of what once was. Another thing is a dream of what church could be or what we want it to be but we aren't quite there yet. A third thing is an uncomfortability with reflection. It's hard to reflect on what is, to name things as they are and not dress them up a bit. It's easier to give out rose colored glasses to everyone so that the world looks better than it actually is.

All that to say - This Mission Study process is making us work. It's hard work to look at ourselves in honesty. But here's the thing - the more honest we are, the more I learn

about SRC, the more I see God's hand holding you, guiding you, providing for you and yes, even changing you. God is with you and in you. God is above you and below you. We do not go this transition alone with our own skills and resources. We go it with the God who created and sustains us.

Stanton Reformed Church's Core Values

"We are a community of grace. We value relationships with one another and with God. We live in fellowship, committed to accepting and supporting one another. We value discipleship along life's journey. We study scripture, worship, and pray to foster our growth in Christ. We value mission in our community and throughout the world. We follow Christ's call to care for the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the human community."

Consistory Membership 2019-2020

<i>Elders Class of 2021</i> Sara Haviland* Erik Petrushun Michelle D'Amico Bud Tunison*	<i>Deacons Class of 2021</i> Michelle White Melody Landon Simerson
<i>Proposed Class of 2022</i> Diane Clapp Donna Herb	<i>Proposed Class of 2022</i> Melissa Clarke Kate Morris vacant

* denotes those not eligible for re-election