**COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES**

April 13, 2021

6:30pm

Pastor Brian Abasciano

Pastor Kevin Kimball

Number of congregants attending: 21

Pastors Abasciano and Kimball opened the meeting at 6:39pm with prayer. As a reminder, Pastor Brian provided an overview of the purpose of community meetings – to seek input from the church body and to be open to God’s leading on church initiatives through community input and through prayer.

Agenda items included:

Incorporating Short-term Missions Policy

Budget Report Summer Activities/Services

Ian McNally Support YouTube

Incorporation

Pastor Brian provided an update on incorporating the church, noting he is working with an attorney to develop incorporation documents and expects the documents to be finalized at any time. The rationale for incorporating is to obtain a formal legal status that would protect individual congregants from being the target of litigation associated with the church. Finalizing the incorporation will require establishing five incorporators who will likely be Brian and Val Abasciano, Kevin and Mo Kimball and one other person to be determined.

Budget Report

Val Abasciano provided an update on the church budget noting the quarterly reports she prepares reflect the same budget amounts as one year ago despite the purchase of chairs ($3k) and the $10k missions donation. The status of church finances is further demonstration of God’s provision and of His trustworthiness when the church prays and seeks His blessing when considering such expenditures. She did note that since she is the sole user on the church account due to the Lovejoy’s relocation, it would be wise to add a second person to review and sign off on the reports (possibly a deacon).

The group then prayed over the financial blessings and the plans to incorporate.

Ian McNally – Long-term Missions

Pastor Brian spoke on Ian McNally’s plans to enter fulltime missions and on his (Ian’s) request for financial support from the church. He spoke to the church’s policy to support those typically raised up by the church, or those significantly connected to the church, which aligns with the church’s emphasis on “community.” Noting that Ian meets these initial criteria and is in good standing with the church, the Pastors are considering a monthly support of $250; however, they are open to the Lord’s leading on the matter.

Discussion ensued on YWAM practices, on other YWAM missionaries, and on Ian’s good character and the potential of his offerings of service to the Lord, resulting in consensus to financially support Ian on a monthly basis. Pastors Brian and Kevin will take the congregation’s input under advisement on this matter.

The group then prayed over Ian’s plans and the church’s plan to financially support him.

Short-term Missions

Pastor Kevin spoke to the church’s position on short-term missions in that it has been policy to support/allow fundraising initiatives through letters of request, but not through the church’s budget; however, the pastors are considering changing the policy to allow for this. Discussion ensued on allocating monies (upwards of $200 each) as a vote of confidence and support as well as on the qualifications for eligible recipients (being a member of the church/involved in the church). Consensus was to support the policy change.

The group then prayed for short-term mission opportunities and funding decisions as well as the need as a church family to recognize and appreciate the value of each other in light of each other’s tenure as members of the church.

Summer Activities/Services

Pastor Kevin invited the church to use his home and yard during summer months for church services and cookouts while he and Mo lead a mission team to the Middle East. Discussion ensued on the opportunity outside services would provide to church members who cannot currently attend inside services due to COVID. Other summer activities will include weekly Bible study and prayer meetings, and Cru Adoptions. Small groups may start again in the fall. An update on soup kitchen was also provided.

The group then prayed for the summer activities.

YouTube

Pastor Brian spoke to the idea of removing the church’s YouTube channel from public viewing due to concerns of privacy and of anti-Christian sentiment in the culture and the potential that groups/individuals might target church members. Discussion ensued on privatizing options, editing video footage, and removing content from the YouTube platform.

The group then prayed for God’s guidance and protection on the matter.

The community meeting ended at 8:20pm.