

Voter's Meeting Minutes - 2020 06 28

- Electronic Meeting Guidelines – W. Floyd
- Opening Devotion - Pastor Manor
 - Matthew 7:24-27
 - The house built on the rock
- Establish a quorum
 - No lapsed members to be reinstated
 - New members
 - Still waiting for transfer documents for Pastor David Fletcher
 - Attendance: 47
- Minutes from 17 May 2020 Voters' Meeting
 - Motion to accept 17 May minutes as written; seconded; passed
- Reports
 - Pastor Manor
 - Report describes current celebrations, relationship building, group meetings, community outreach
 - Staff (T. Hoyt)
 - Choral ministries shut down for now but holding occasional meetings to stay connected. Rehearsals start again in September.
 - Thanks to those who have been providing music during recent months
 - Financial (D. Hergert)
 - Ytd offerings down \$39k, though variance to budget +\$44k due to timing of arrival of Pastor Manor. Overall down \$26k income vs spending.
 - Bank balances are sound
 - Open Arms okay to budget. The staff took reduced pay during the period, and there was a generous anonymous donation from a congregation member.
 - Motion to accept report subject to financial review; seconded; passed
 - Open Arms (D. Wilson)
 - Majority of parents paid half or full tuition April-end.
 - Continue to get inquiries about new students.

- 17 children enrolled, low but not unusual under the circumstances.
- Stay and Play will be more complicated than usual due to new restrictions.
- Pastor Manor notes that there is a preschool in Billerica that will not be reopening, so we may get inquiries from parents there. There is a Facebook group of Bedford parents that has sung the praises of Open Arms.

— CFM

- Running at full capacity, 10-20 families per day.

— Worship (S. Veino)

- Thanks to volunteers for preparing church for return to services
- Special thanks to Mike Berg for the new offering box.

— Education (A. Jordan)

- Various groups are operating in video format: Sunday School, Adult Christian Education, Ladies' Bible Study, Cradle Roll
- At-home VBS possibly in early August, but need to figure out who is interested
- Starting to plan for full restart, but regulations are continuing to change.
- Lois S. and Sunny T. have been meeting with the HS kids on Sunday mornings.

— Elders (P. Gierke)

- Installation services for new Pastor, also Teacher
- Transfer out of Salmi family, moving to new congregation
- Thanks to Mike Cebry for his service

— Evangelism (VACANT – but comments by C. Floyd)

- A link to a testimonial by Pastor Shahab will be sent out later this week, also a link to a podcast by Pastor Ehlers

— Stewardship (VACANT)

— Trustees (H. Hoyt)

- Hoping to start work on classrooms and bathrooms this summer.

● Reflections on 2020 (W. Floyd)

— Lots of positive things happening in spite of Covid-19 situation

- New pastor
- Car parade in celebration of new pastor (~17 cars)
- Red Cross blood drive

— SWOT Analysis, opportunities and headwinds/threats

- A. Jordan notes IT efforts that made Google Meet, livestreaming of services, etc., run smoothly when they were needed.

- Kitchen – fundraising, planning underway
 - Lay leadership, small groups responding to challenges
 - VBS, Stewardship are works in progress
 - Communication is still a struggle
 - Kick off strategic planning at July Council Meeting, but get input from others beforehand
 - Midyear assessment: challenges, but situation better than expected. “I think we have disappointed the evil one.”
- Motion to adjourn; seconded; passed
 - Closing prayer, W. Floyd