



## *Crosby United Methodist Church*

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The August meeting of the Board of Stewards for the Crosby United Methodist Church was held on August 18, 2020 via zoom and in-person attendance. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Chairman Buddy Brewer. James Malac opened the meeting with a prayer.

Members in attendance were: Buddy Brewer, Collie Smith, Bobby Odom, Randy Foster, Danny Eppers, Melody Mendez, Rev. Jamie Lea, Ray Law, Skip Greenwade, Anne Till, Amanda Schriewer, and Willie Thompson by zoom. Ray Reese attended in a non-voting, recording capacity.

A quorum was declared by Chairman Buddy Brewer.

A motion to accept the July minutes as presented was made by Danny Eppers and received a second by Skip Greenwade. The motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Finance Chair, Ray Law gave the finance report which showed that giving was marginally down but held strong for the current viral climate. The budget comparison report showed that July showed positive net operating income and that the YTD operating income was \$55K. Expenses continue to be minimized amid COVID restrictions.

Ray Reese is working on getting proposals for investment strategies for the \$325K that is currently held in Texas Methodist Foundation. Ray Law stated that he would like the equivalent of 3 months of expenses held in reserve. He recommends that the bulk of the money be invested by someone familiar with investing money for churches in causes that align with church beliefs. He is agreeable to a smaller portion of the investment being invested in a higher risk, higher return investment. Ray Reese asked if \$80K should be placed in an investment that would allow for easy access with no penalties for withdrawal in case the funds are needed for disaffiliation in the future. Ray Reese and Amanda will continue to work on this item.

The Weekday School (WDS) will not form a private kindergarten due to lack of interest. Ray Reese put together a list of costs associated with the WDS which are broken down to the per child level. Melody Mendez feels the amount allocated for utilities is low. Further consideration will be given to the costs to provide a more concrete number which can be used as a starting point for future discussion about reimbursement.

Details are:

<b>EXPENSE</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Yearly</b>
Utilities	300	3600
Internet	50	600
Insurance	400	400
Workmans Compensation	700	700
Cleaning	625	7500
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$12,800.00</b>

Total Kids	68
Total Months of paid tuition	10
<b>Tuition Increase needed to recover</b>	<b>\$18.82 per month/kid</b>

Beverly Pipes has begun training as the financial secretary for the Church. She needs to be added to the signature card for the bank. **The motion to remove Linda Ritcheson from the signature card on the Operating Account for Crosby United Methodist Church and add Beverly Pipes, to remove all personal information associated with Linda Ritcheson i.e. email, and replace with [finance@crosbyumc.org](mailto:finance@crosbyumc.org) and [office@crosbyumc.org](mailto:office@crosbyumc.org), and to delete PPP from the account which was opened to house PPP funds and replace the label with Supplemental Income Account,** was made by Skip Greenwade and second by Anne Till. The Board voted unanimously to approve this motion. Ray Reese or Beverly Pipes will coordinate with the bank to effect the changes on the account.

The report of SPRC was given by Collie Smith. Collie reported that Beverly Pipes was in her second week of training. Words of thanks were given to Linda Ritcheson for not only her devotion to the position in past years, but also for the training that she is provided to Beverly.

Ray Law submitted a name for consideration to complete the outside audit as voted on at the July meeting of the Board. The finance committee will meet with her after Labor Day to get an estimation of cost for her providing this service to the Church. The report from Pastor Jamie Lea revolved around Congregational Health with a reminder that many of the members of our Church are feeling scared during this time. We need to remember them in prayer and be aware of fears that they may have in returning to groups or worship.

Pastor Jamie also reminded the Board that with our return to worship, the outside groups that utilize our facility will likely begin asking questions about their return. The AA group has been meeting with strict attendance limits. If their meeting attendance exceeds member limits, they are meeting outside.

The Boy Scouts have not been meeting. There was discussion about what it would look like to have them return. We will contact our cleaning team to see if they could adjust their deep cleaning day to accommodate a Scout meeting. James Malac will also contact the Scout leader to provide for them our current list of safety protocol requirements. Once feedback is received on their ability to follow the protocol as well as their willingness to aid in the disinfecting process, James will report back to the Board so that a decision can be made regarding their return to using the facility.

Membership Committee is meeting again and working hard to clean up the roll for the Church.

Generosity team is preparing to send out giving statements. They are also beginning to consider alternatives to Consecration Sunday.

Nomination Committee is preparing to make recommendations to fill 6 positions on the 2021 Board. These recommendations will be made over the next few months so that the new positions can be ratified at Church Conference which will be held in November.

The report from Trustees was presented by Willie Thompson. Willie reported that the Church is awaiting a site visit from Mark Owens from BEMA Services. Once the site visit is completed, a recommendation, if appropriate, will be made to accept BEMA Services as the company which will service the Computer Technology needs of the Church. At that time, further consideration will be given to hiring an outside sound engineering firm to address the current audio challenges that the Church is experiencing. The flood repair to the Parsonage is almost totally completed. The total cost of this repair was \$11,250.16. Willie Thompson opened a dialogue with the insurance company to discuss the deficit between their claim payment and the actual spend for the project. Currently the Church has spent \$2100 out of pocket, however, there is an expectation of a payment from the insurance company to cover depreciation costs which they originally withheld from the payment. Since the project was repaired back to 100% of life value, the depreciation costs, once paid, should total around \$1800. Danny Eppers brought to the Board that a determination for the future use of the parsonage must be made so that there is not a continued flow of cash into the structure. Willie Thompson reported that a report will be given to the Board by October to outline recommendations for this future use. This would include a possible stipend for the Pastor, using the parsonage as rental property, keeping parsonage as the Pastor's residence, or converting the space for other church related usage.

The Kid's Hope report was given by Danny Eppers. It is reported that Karen Claunch will meet with the Regional Director of Kids hope next week to discuss increasing a virtual presence within the current program. Melody Mendez said that the program could be enhanced this year in ways other than meeting face to face with students. School supplies are being handed out and are not able to be returned due to COVID precautions. A way to participate in the program might be providing educators with additional school supplies or provide food for students who depend on the food from school.

Anne Till reported that UMW will move forward with their Angel Tree program. They will not hold their luncheon this year due to COVID restrictions.

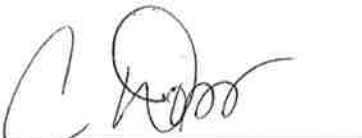
Worship is going well. The new time for the in-person service yielded an increase in attendance for that service. Average attendance for the past two Sundays has been in excess of 60. The streamed service is being reworked to keep it fresh and relevant to those who wish to continue to worship from home.

Pumpkin Patch is set to deliver on September 26, 2020 with ½ truckload. Planning and scheduling for this event will begin soon. Ray Reese asked for guidance as to which Harvest Moon Festivities were deemed safe by the Board. Ray will also look into the need to apply for a permit for the festival with Harris County. Skip Greenwade made a motion to move forward with Harvest Moon as long as safety precautions are followed. Anne Till seconded the motion and a unanimous affirmative vote approved the motion. Ray and Lois will begin planning events. A detailed listing will be presented during the September Board meeting.

Skip Greenwade gave a condensed version of the Report of the Texas annual Conference. Conference 2020 was held via zoom. The proposal for Clergy Health Benefits, Balanced Budget, Strategic mapping, and Disaffiliation all passed during conference. The proposal to End all harm was withdrawn. Skip will present the formal report to both services on August 30.

Church Staff and volunteers attended Servant Keeper Training. CUMC had 6 total members present including Beverly Pipes. Good time was had by all! There being no further business or discussion, Skip Greenwade made a motion to adjourn at 8:35.

Respectfully Submitted:



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Cheryl Doss