

Christian Life Assembly

Annual Vision Summit | September 18, 2024

MEETING NOTES

After a time of worship, Pastor Shane Wilson invited Malcolm Richardson to open in prayer, while Pastor Scott Ball and Pastor Amanda Anderson joined them on the platform. Providing a short devotional from Exodus 33, Pastor Scott urged all to trust in *God's promises*. Pastor Shane returned as Vision Summit chairperson and called the meeting to order at 7:13 PM, announcing a quorum.

Moving forward with procedures for the evening, Pastor Shane recognized current board members, thanking them for their sacrifice of time. He extended appreciation to the team of tellers for their work. Next, Pastor Shane called for the 2023 Vision Summit minutes to be reviewed, which all accepted, and Connie Miller seconded the motion.

The first order of business was the lead pastor's report, with Pastor Amanda temporarily taking over the role of Vision Summit chairperson. "Tonight is a snapshot," Pastor Shane began. "God has been so good to us. We have the privilege of being part of this great work." Jesus is building and protecting His church against the powers of the evil one. We need to stand strong in our faith and defeat the enemy. Jesus said, "Go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28). He is with us always, to the end of the age. *God's promise*, as Pastor Scott mentioned in his devotional, is to be with us. He promised us authority, promise, power and protection. The door is open for us to make disciples—Jesus has power over darkness. Pastor Shane, in preaching mode, asked, "Can somebody give me an *amen*?" God has been true and faithful to his promises. As evidence to God's faithfulness, Pastor Shane continued with supportive CLA statistics of 2023—commitments to Christ, child dedications, water baptisms, new members, fundraising efforts, community outreach and worldwide missions. In closing, Pastor Shane expressed how he and Heidi love the church, deeply desiring that we'll grow spiritually. He profusely thanked all for their love and support. After 10 years, he still hears the abundance of rain! "All to Jesus," Pastor Shane affirmed. He respectfully submitted his comments.

The second order of business was the financial report. Dena Brenneman, Deacon Board Treasurer, and Ken Ulrich, CLA Director of Finance, presented the information. Pastor Shane prefaced the report—reviewed annually by BSSF—with giving at 6.3% higher than 2023 and \$340k over the plan. It is represented by 53% in cash/checks and 47% in electronic payments. In 2024, incidentally, we're already 1.4% ahead in giving.

Dena took over, citing salaries, expenses, current expense increases and wage increases. Ken explained how facility costs increased 18% this year, citing maintenance of our large campus and vehicle fleet. With a building of 225,000 square feet, it's a big space to heat and cool. Gas and electricity, for example, have gone up about 9% each year. Ken said we participate with a third party for more efficient costs. Our building, at 20 years of age, needs more items replaced, thus increasing costs by 18%. Pastor Shane interjected with this surprising comparison: a \$5k repair years ago now costs us \$60k. He thanked Gary Frutiger for the maintenance team's work and how well they steward our resources. We have five acres of roofing currently being replaced. We are taking care of our facility.

Ken moved on to ministry expenses, which are stable each year, and ministry investments, which ebb and flow based upon needs. He gave two examples: Crisis Area Pregnancy Center and the church in El Salvador. An explanation of capital investments and expenses—like the boiler, security cameras, sewer pump, water heater, youth center lighting upgrades, and fridges—contributed to the discussion.

Nearing the end, Pastor Shane highlighted Imagine Tomorrow, with \$575k paid on the mortgage in 2023. A payoff by August 2028 is anticipated. From the floor, Kristi Davis thought it would be beneficial for the congregation to be educated on finance, which Pastor reinforced as important.

After a motion and multiple seconds, the 2023 financial report was unanimously received.

The third order of business was deacon elections. Once again, Pastor Shane thanked the tellers for their counting. We had three deacon positions eligible for reelection. A deacon can serve a three-year term, then again for another three years, if approved. We're a large organization—it creates a lot of work to operate it. Dena Brenneman, Brad Brubaker and Candace Harris were all overwhelmingly voted in. Pastor Shane prayed a blessing over these three deacons, recognizing their gifting.

Pastor Shane then opened the floor with questions. The following individuals aired their comments and questions:

Lois Lyman: She's concerned about the phones on campus and lack thereof. Pastor Shane and Pastor Scott will look into it.

Zach Wors: He asked about the terms served by deacons, and the three-deacon turnover. We're working on a solution—no more than two members will be transitioning at a time. Covid became a factor.

Ken Burkey: He is involved in teaching and asked about his background in financial university. He offered financial counseling for anyone, and he's here to help.

Steve Cisneros: He mentioned security cameras. Are IT folks checking out things because of our high electricity costs? Pastor Shane answered by saying we're looking into solar. We're converting lighting to LED, trying to be good stewards.

Ocea: What are we doing to make our church and local community better? Pastor Shane responded, "We need to go outside the church, being the hands and feet of Jesus – workplace, grocery store, everywhere."

Pam Gladfelter: She asked about Vibrant Church and their Adventure Park. Could we do something like that? Pastor David could share his dreams; it could be a draw for younger families.

In a final comment, Pastor Shane summarized his appreciation for our church's generosity: "It's the honor of my life to serve you – a team effort."

A motion to adjourn was approved and so ordered at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Alioth
Deacon Board Secretary