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MINUTE WITH MIKE

*“Trust in the Lord, and do good.
Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness.
Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.
Commit your way to the Lord, trust in Him, and He will do it.
Psalm 37:3-4*

May greetings to you and to yours, dear ones!

May the freshness of this season revive even your very soul in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Well, we are in! And if you are like me, you are waiting now for waves of spiritual growth and renewal to come. I surely want God to do a mighty work among us and use us in wonderful ways to grow His kingdom. I want revival, as do so many others in our church and community.

In studying revivals, I am led to believe the first step is to want it. To proclaim that the desire of your heart is for revival. First in our individual hearts, then in our church family, then in our community. So, do you want it? It could be messy. It could get crowded... Are you sure you want it?

Good – then let’s desire it! Let’s talk about it; let’s expect it; that God will do an amazing work among us. And let’s also prepare for what comes next. But first and foremost, let’s desire revival. Let’s long for it and crave it; “Lord Jesus, I want revival, I want renewal, I want a fresh filling of Your love, joy, peace and glory. I want Your Holy Spirit to light a fire in me, in my church, and in my community.” Can you pray a prayer like that? I hope you can and do!

We’ve been saying since January that we believe God will do far more abundantly, even more than we ask or think... (our theme verse for 2022 – Ephesians 3:20-21). At the end of his life, Joshua, the great leader of God’s people said, “Choose you this whom you will serve...” (Joshua 24:15). Choose to want this, friends, for yourselves, for your families, for our church and for the world – Lord Jesus, please come and revive Your people, starting with me!

In the joy and privilege, I have to labor with you to the glory of God! Your pastor, friend and brother,

Mike

SESSION NEWS

The 78th Stated Meeting of the Session of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church was called to order Thursday, April 7, 2022, at 7:30 PM on Zoom, Pastor Mike Baynai, Moderator.

Devotions and Prayer – Elder Betty Rittersdorf provided devotions and the opening prayer.

Roll & Determination of a Quorum: Present: Moderator Pastor Mike Baynai; Ruling Elders Robert Adams, Bill Keating, Gary Lehmann, Betty Rittersdorf; and Asst. Clerk Jim Miller. Absent: Asst. Pastor Dr. Laura Smit. *A quorum was present.*

Clerk's Report

Next Communion will be observed on Sunday, April 10, 2022; the last communion was observed Sunday, April 3, 2022.

Membership

Active Membership as of 2/10/2022	45
Cathy Jo Wolters passed away 2/23/2022	
Active Membership as of 4/7/2022	44

Correspondence

- Sent an email to CTS notifying them of our potential move in March.
- Mike sent a thank you email to Rick Gillespie-Mobley for his providing and setting up the new sound system and TV.
- Mike sent a thank you letter to Linda Pape for her donation.

Worship Services

Attendance	2/13/2022	24 adults at Calvin Chapel
Attendance	2/20/2022	31 adults at Calvin Chapel
Attendance	2/27/2022	22 adults at Calvin Chapel
Attendance	3/6/2022	21 adults at Calvin Chapel
Attendance	3/13/2022	21 adults at Calvin Chapel
Attendance	3/20/2022	30 adults at Calvin Chapel
Attendance	3/27/2022	23 adults at Calvin Chapel
Attendance	4/3/2022	44 adults at GSPC

Treasurer's Report 2/28/2022

+\$23,225.47	Cash on Hand as of 03/03/2022
+\$25,719.16	CD#1 (Northpoint Bank)
+\$15,028.38	CD#2 (Northpoint Bank)
<u>\$63,973.01</u>	TOTAL CASH AVAILABLE

(LESS FOLLOWING COMMITTED FUNDS)

-\$0	Accrued Joyful Noise offerings
<u>-\$24,442.68</u>	Building Fund (Summary below)
\$39,530.33	Uncommitted Funds Available

Notes: Uncommitted funds, as of end of January, were \$40,432,63. Our LOSS in February was an additional \$902.30, due to increase building fund from \$22,000 to a new total \$29,757.

INTERIM BUILDING FUND BUDGET TO COMPLETE (as of Mar 3, 2022)

Irish

Second Bathroom = \$8,625
Extra Outlets = \$275
\$8,625

Mark

Painting = \$2,900
Carpet = \$5,000
Kitchen = \$2,500
\$10,400

GSPC

Folding Tables = \$130.42 (6 of 8- \$869.58 paid)
Refrigerator = \$850
Sign balance = \$3,000 (\$2,982 paid)
Pulpit/Alter = \$166.30 (pulpit-\$321.36 & communion table-\$412.34 - both paid)
Miscellaneous = \$1,270.96 (1/2 cross-\$387.50, keys-\$23.54, moving chairs-\$318 - all paid)
\$5,417.68

CURRENT REMAINING ANTICIPATED EXPENSES: \$24,442.68 (of \$29,757 of an updated total budget)

Treasurer's Report 3/31/2022

+ \$11,959.57	Cash on Hand as of 03/31/2022
+ \$25,724.09	CD#1 (Northpoint Bank)
<u>-0-</u>	CD#2 (Northpoint Bank)
\$37,683.66	TOTAL CASH AVAILABLE

(LESS FOLLOWING COMMITTED FUNDS)
-\$18 Accrued Joyful Noise offerings
-\$3,600 Building Fund (Summary below)
\$34,065.66 Uncommitted Funds Available

Notes: Uncommitted funds, as of end of February, were \$39,530.33. Our LOSS in March was an additional \$5,464.67, mostly due to increases to Irish and Mark's invoices.

INTERIM BUILDING FUND BUDGET TO COMPLETE (as of Mar 31, 2022)

Irish

6' versus 3' doors = \$814
Second Bathroom = \$8,130 (only item budgeted at \$8,625)
Extra Outlets = \$275
-0- Balance Due (\$9,219 paid versus \$8,625 budgeted)

Mark

Painting =	\$2,900
Carpet =	\$5,000
Kitchen =	<u>\$2,500</u>
	-0- Balance Due (\$13,000 paid versus \$10,400 budgeted)

GSPC

2 Folding Tables =	\$200 due - (6 of 8- \$869.58 paid)
Refrigerator =	\$0 due - (\$519.99 paid versus \$850 budgeted)
Sign balance =	\$3,000 due - (\$2,982 paid)
Pulpit/Alter =	\$0 due - (pulpit-\$321.36 & communion table-\$412.34 - both paid)
Cross balance	
& Miscellaneous =	<u>\$400 due</u> - (1/2 cross-\$387.50, keys-\$23.54, moving chairs-\$318, cabinet pulls-\$45.13 - all paid)
	\$3,600

CURRENT REMAINING ANTICIPATED EXPENSES: \$3,600 (of \$31,698 of an updated total budget for Building Fund) [TOTAL ALREADY PAID = \$ 28,098]

PLEASE NOTE: The Budgeted Building Fund has grown from \$22,000 to \$29,757 to the current of \$31,698, due to changes (i.e., larger doors, platform, extra outlets, shelf and electronics cabling, etc.)

Consent Agenda – The Clerk and the Treasurer have moved to approve their respective reports, and to approve the minus for all session and congregational meetings which have been held since the last session meeting. **The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

Assistant Pastor — Dr. Laura will be preaching 4/10, 5/8, and 5/15.

Pastor

- Pastor presented a report describing his trip to the National Meeting of Ligonier Ministries in Orlando, Florida.
- Maundy Thursday service will be at 6:30, Good Friday at 2:00
- Pastor will be gone on vacation in early May, and will miss May 8, 15, and 22. Dr. Laura has agreed to preach those days.
- Pastor asked the session if they had any questions about a possible new pastoral team model. The session asked to see more details in writing.
- A new member class may be starting soon, if needed.
- Pastor may be holding “office hours” at the church during the week.

Worship Service

- Pastor and the session gave a word of thanks regarding Rick Gillespie-Mobley and his tremendous gift of equipment and installation of the new sound system and TV.
- The session and Pastor agreed to try passing the offering and communion next service. Last week was a bit of a traffic jam.
- The session discussed the potential of live streaming the service and decided against it. We want people to come to church. Services will be recorded (as soon as a camera can be procured) and posted online for those that miss a service.

Brooks Memorial Scholarship

- Jim reported that three people have applied for the scholarship.

Mission, Website, and Newsletter

- The church website has been redesigned.
- The church has enrolled in the “Direct Your Dollars” program through Spartan Nash. The church will collect Spartan Nash (D&W, Family Fare, Forest Hills Foods) receipts. If we collect enough receipts, Spartan Nash will send us a check for \$1000 which we will share with one of our mission partners (Joyful Noise recipient).

Personnel and Nominating Team

- There will be a congregational meeting on May 22, 2022, to elect church officers.

Fellowship

- Pastor asked about fellowship meals. Church members would volunteer to host a meal for “x” members in their home. The church would randomly choose the “x” members to attend. Session supported the idea.
- Pastor expressed interest in a “learning luncheon” once per quarter, possibly inviting an external speaker to attend. Session supported the idea.

Church Home

- We have lots of plastic totes left over from our time at the seminary. We will keep a couple and try to give away or sell the rest.
- Pastor will coordinate volunteers to clean the church midweek.
- We have a few chairs that don’t match the majority of them. Pastor will see about donating them.

Next Presbytery Meeting — April 30, 2022. Pastor Mike and Dr. Laura will attend. Clerk will inform the presbytery that they are the voting commissioners.

Next Session Meeting — The next Session meeting will be **Monday May 23, 2022** on Zoom.

Closing Prayer – Pastor Mike closed the meeting with prayer; adjourned at approximately 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Adams. Clerk of Session

DATES – MAY

1st Sunday: Worship and Communion at 10:00am
 1st Sunday: Devotion at Samaritas (the Woods)
 2:30pm
 4th Wednesday: Prayer Call at 7:00pm
 6th Friday: Men’s Breakfast Devotional at (Bob
 Evans) – 9:30am
 8th Sunday: Worship at 10:00am
 11th Wednesday: Prayer Call 7:00pm

12th Thursday: Bilyea’s Home Group meeting at
 1:00pm
 15th Sunday: Worship at 10:00am
 18th Wednesday: Prayer Call at 7:00pm
 22nd Sunday: Worship at 10:00am Congregational
 Meeting after worship
 22nd Sunday: Devotional at Brook Crest 2:30pm
 23rd Monday: Newsletter deadline
 23rd Monday: Session Zoom meeting at 7:30pm
 25th Wednesday: Prayer Call at 7:00pm

26th Thursday: Bilyea's Home Group meeting
1:00pm
26th Thursday: Bible Study at Grand Village [Barb's home] at 3:00pm
27th Friday: Ladies Luncheon at First Wok (44th Street) at 1:00pm
28th Saturday: Newly Elected Officers Training class 11:00am
29th Sunday: Worship at 10:00am
29th Sunday: Board of Deacons meeting after worship

SERVING

1st: Preaching - Pastor Mike
Liturgist – Dr. Laura
Musician - Marjorie Boerema
Special Music – Adams family
Communion Bread - Rachel Wahome
Officiating the Table - Henry Gachini
Greeting - Bill & Sandee Keating
Sound Booth - Gary & Dana Lehmann
8th: Preaching – Dr. Laura
Liturgist – Robert Adams
Marjorie Boerema - Musician
Special Music – Dana Bilyea and Dana Lehmann
Greeting - Diane Solomon & Marilyn Potgeter
Sound Booth - Gary & Dana Lehmann
15th: Preaching – Dr. Laura
Liturgist – Robert Adams
Maureen Sweet – Musician
Special Music: Mercy Kamau
Greeting – Roger & Marie Zoerner
Sound Booth - Liam & Seamus Adams
22nd: Preaching – Dr. Laura
Liturgist – Pastor Mike
Musician - Maureen Sweet
Special Music – Henry Gachini & Rachel Wahome
Greeting - Henry Gachini and Mercy Kamau
Sound Booth – Robert, Liam & Seamus Adams
29th: Preaching: Pastor Mike
Liturgist: Dr. Laura
Musician: Marjorie Boerema
Special Music: Pastor Mike
Sound Booth: Gary and Dana Lehmann
Greeting: Cammi and Faywen Adams

CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

Week of May 1-7: The Adams Family
Week of May 8-14: Mike & Donna
Week of May 15-21: Henry, Bev and Dana B.
Week of May 22-28: Rachel and Mercy
Week of May 29-June 4: Bill and Sandee

LADIES LUNCHEON

You're invited to join some of the ladies of the church meeting at First Wok on 44th Street at 1:00 PM each last Friday of the month at 1:00pm. It's a great time of prayer and fellowship as the "sisters" meet with Pastor Mike. (Everyone is "Dutch.") For more information contact Pastor Mike at (616) 822-9988.

MEN OF THE CHURCH

The Men of the Church meet every FIRST FRIDAY of the month at 9:30am at Bob Evans (Kalamazoo Ave. at M6). After a brief devotional and prayer, the gents enjoy a breakfast and great conversation. All are welcome to join us.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITY

Are you wanting to pour out your heart before the Lord? You have an opportunity to do so each week on Wednesday at 7:00pm. Join Pastor Mike, Dr. Laura and others as we together, "pour out our hearts before Him".

Dial-in-number: 1-602-580-9612
Access Code: 6914064

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1	Veyola Kenyi
2	Cammi Adams
9	Faywen Adams
20	Katherine Kenyi
20	Al Boerema
21	Kennedy Barrett
30	Trinity Gipe
25	Henry Gachini (anniv)

NEW PROCEDURES

Now that we are in the “new church” we’ll be starting a few new practices. One of them will be that we’ll begin to pass the offering plate and the Joyful Noise Offering can through the pews. So, get ready to make a little noise!

Also, we are going to begin passing the Communion plates, both the bread plate and the cup tray through the pews. We pray this procedure will enhance your worship experience.

Further, your pastor will begin to keep “office hours.” Beginning this month, pastor Mike will be in the church on Fridays. If you wish to visit, please feel free to let him know, an appointment time is always helpful.

BIBLE STUDY ANYONE?

Are you ready for some Bible study? If you are, please contact Donna to let her know the following:

1. When would you like to begin?
2. What day & time work best?
3. Would you like to do a Beth Moore study again?
4. Is there a Bible teacher & study you would prefer?

Thank you!

Donna's cell: 616-822-7527

Email: angelsgramster1@hotmail.com

SOMETHING NEW

Would you like to be a part of something new at the church? Perhaps a prayer group, or a study group, perhaps a meal and devotion... Please communicate your ideas to Pastor Mike and let's get going on some exciting mission and outreach events.

Lunch and Learn: The Third Wednesday (every other month) we'll be holding a lunch and learn program. The first Lunch and Learn is scheduled for June 15, and Kentwood's Mayor Stephen Kepley is our invited guest. There will be opportunity to bring a dish so please watch for sign-ups...

Fellowship Feasts: Would you like to fellowship more often with your church family

members? Would you like to share a meal with those whom you so respect and love? Well, then you want to be a part of Fellowship Feasts! We are looking now for persons that would be willing to host a small group of friends from the church at your home. You pick the day and time that best suits you. And, you determine just how many others you want to have over (2, 4, 6...). You'll prepare the main dish, but those coming will bring the salad, dessert, and the other fixings... Watch for a sign-up sheet to be posted in the church soon.

NOMINATING REPORT

The nominating team has met to select candidates for elders and deacons for the coming year. Deacons ending their terms this year have all consented to serve again. Two elders, Bill Keating and Betty Rittersdorf, will be ending their terms. Bill has consented to accepting another term. Contacts were unsuccessfully made with other members to serve as elders. Jim Miller has agreed to serve another term. By-laws say that after two terms of service, officers should go off Session for one year, and Jim has met that requirement. It should be stated that nominations from the floor are acceptable, but any such nominations must have the acceptance of the nominee before it is accepted. Elections will be held May 22 following the worship service.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Hello Neighbor,

Welcome to Bretwood! My name is Amanda Morton. I'm the new owner of CFit Community. We're in a suite a couple of doors over and are planning our grand opening for the beginning of May. At CFit we provide a space for fitness instructors to hold classes and grow their businesses. We're also organizing vendors to hold a weekly shopping event.

I'm reaching out to invite you and anyone in your congregation who may want to try out any of our free fitness classes. The classes are outlined on our flyers. Our **Circuit Training** class is made up of traditional exercise movements and is great for anyone who is looking to lose weight or work up a sweat. Our **Xtreme Hip Hop** class is great for anyone who is looking to add movement to their

day. It uses a small aerobic step and the dance choreography to R&B and hip hop songs.

I look forward to officially meeting you and wish you much success.

Amanda Morton

BROOKS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

We're pleased to report that we've received applications from Fikre Norcha, his son Ammanuel, and Liam Adams for scholarship awards this year. The trustees have approved those applications and advised the recipients that they will each receive \$1,000 from the fund towards their educational objectives. Please remember our dearly departed Bob Brooks in your prayers for his thoughtfulness and generosity in establishing this fund.

THE LATEST BANNER

by Diane Solomon

A few months ago I was thinking about making a new banner and decided on a banner with a shepherd and some sheep – stating “Feed My Sheep.” There have been so many sermons in the past years where “Feed My Sheep” has been used. (If we see a visual of something, we remember it more than just hearing it.) Before I started the banner, I found that we would be having our own church. I decided to make a banner for our church. Although I tried to copy the logo of our new sign that Jim Miller designed, the logistics just didn't work out. I did use the font of that logo and

the cross. Maybe sometime when you look at the banner, you might remember “Feed My Sheep.”



DIRECT-YOUR-DOLLARS (a reminder)



We've now begun partnering with SpartanNash, the big food distributor, in their direct-your-dollars charitable program. This was previously announced via email and

from the pulpit. Receipts have begun trickling in and we're hopeful (and prayerful!) that as many of you as possible will participate.

The way this works is that everyone saves their receipts for groceries purchased at one of the SpartanNash stores and turns them in to the church. Once we've collected \$150,000 worth of receipts, we submit them to SpartanNash, and they give us a check for \$1,000! The SpartanNash stores in the Grand Rapids area are Family Fare, D&W and Forest Hills Foods.

I know that sounds like a lot but you'd be amazed how fast it adds up, particularly if you recruit friends and family members to add their receipts to yours. We're organizing a collection point in the church for you to turn in your receipts, and I'll conglomerate them together and, eventually, submit them for our cash reward!

Submitted by Jim Miller

SIX THINGS SATAN WANTS MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE

This month we conclude the series as titled above presented in the March and April editions of "Shepherd's Voice." The first four were: to make you doubt God's word, to paralyze you with fear, to silence you from sharing the Gospel, and to cause you to live in shame. And now:

5. For You to Worship an Idol

An idol can be anything that we place before the Lord. In the Old Testament, this was clear to see as they worshipped literal objects. Although most Christians don't have a golden calf or statue of Jesus that they praise, there are still many idols that have taken their place in our hearts.

From worshipping our favorite celebrity, to spending hours on social media, to living a life that is extremely focused on self, we can make anything an idol. This trick of the enemy is much cleverer as it may not be realized right away. In fact, we can spend years worshipping things that seem good on the outside but suddenly become an obsession to where "it" becomes our primary focus in life. Thus, what started as a positive thing such as going to the gym daily, going on vacations, making money, or finding a spouse, can become our primary source of hope and happiness.

Before long, we can start to look to those things more than we look to God. This can be dangerous, as when these things fade, we are left with a sense of hopelessness. Although God wants us to have good things, we can never worship them more than the one who gives them to us. We must be willing to lay down whatever the Lord leads us to, if it is standing in the way of a life that is submitted to the Lord.

6. For You to Be Deceived

It has never been more important for Christians to stand on the Word of God. In today's culture, we see so many accommodating the Word to fit their lifestyle instead of accommodating their lifestyle to match the Word. This form of trickery is Satan's attempt to make Christians pick and choose which aspects of the Bible make them feel good.

Instead of seeking a life that follows the Spirit, we look to our own flesh and concept of morality to find truth. In many ways, we become like Eve wanting to only accept portions of God's Word but preferring our will over His. The truth is, if the enemy can keep Christians lukewarm and hypocritical in their faith, he can cause many to not want to follow the Lord.

We must remember that Satan will do anything to cause confusion, including using Christians with so many different beliefs that it appears to be dozens of different religions mixed into one. We must know that anything we believe that contradicts the Word of God is simply another ploy of the enemy. Let us not give the enemy any more power over our minds and action and walk fully in God's Word.

“For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.” ([2 Timothy 4:3-4](#))

Written by: Victoria Riollano

Victoria Riollano is an author, blogger, and speaker. As a mother of six, military spouse, Psychology professor and minister’s wife, Victoria has learned the art of balancing family and accomplishing God’s ultimate purpose for her life. Recently, Victoria released her book, [The Victory Walk: A 21 Day Devotional on Living A Victorious Life](#). Her ultimate desire is to empower women to live a life of victory, hope, and love. She believes that with Christ we can live a life that is ALWAYS winning. You can learn more about her ministry at [victoryspeaks.org](#). Source: [iBelieve](#)

