



Annual Business Meeting

July 11, 2021

Ministry Reports



Order of Business

Devotional

Reading of Previous Minutes

Pastor's Report

Treasurer's Report

Committees' Report

Election of Officers

New business

Adjournment

PASTOR: Rev. Craig V. Riportella

DEACON BOARD: Josh Amburg, Sara Bulkley, Aimeé Carter,
Mitchell Grohoski, Scott Milewski

SECRETARY: Pastor Zach Dickey

TREASURER: Steve Doyle



2020 Meeting Minutes

July 26, 2020

Pastor Craig called the meeting to order at 11:35am. He shared a devotional on Joshua 6. Pastor Craig opened the meeting in prayer.

Closing the roster: Bryan Finnemore made a motion to close the roster. Mary Connors seconded. All in favor, motion carried. The roster was closed at 12:25pm. A quorum of 40 active partners are required to hold a legal meeting. There are 73 active partners present; 37 voted of the active partners present are needed to pass by a simple majority, 49 voted of the partners present are needed to pass by a 2/3 majority. This is a legal meeting.

Minutes: Kimberlyn Smith made a motion to accept the previous year's minutes from July 28, 2019 as written. Walter Beaudoin seconded. All in favor motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Pastor Craig turned the mic over to Kevin so that Kevin could read the treasurer's report. Kevin discussed certain items and he and Pastor Craig answered questions that arose.

Pastor's and Committee Reports: Criss Kraus made a motion to accept all reports as written. Paul Otis seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Unfinished Business: Mark Reynolds made a motion to accept the budget as written. Aimee Carter seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Election of Officers: Pastor Craig explained that Mitchell Grohoski and Aimee Carter have both been asked to stay on the board for one more year. Barbara Worthley made a motion to cast ballots for the election of officers. Heather Rose seconded. Kristi Smith made a motion to vote on adding terms to the two board member terms. David Sharpe seconded. All in favor, motion carried. There were 71 yes votes for both Mitchell and Aimee to extend their terms for one year and 2 abstained votes.

Mark Reynolds has made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Criss Kraus seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Mark Reynolds closed the meeting in prayer at 12:39pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Zach Dickey
Secretary



Financial Reports

	BUDGET June '20- July '21	ACTUAL Jul '20 - Jun 21	BUDGET Jul '21 - Jun 22
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Total 4000- · Tithes	\$ 444,200.00	\$ 457,531.83	\$ 452,000.00
4091 · TA Rent	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 24,000.00
4200 · Other Income	\$ 14,800.00	\$ 13,792.93	\$ -
4352 · Swicker House Income	\$ 15,600.00	\$ 38,005.87	\$ -
4400 · Centerpoint Daycare	\$ 240,000.00	\$ 278,333.50	\$ 250,000.00
Total Income	\$ 738,600.00	\$ 811,664.13	\$ 726,000.00
Gross Profit	\$ 738,600.00	\$ 811,664.13	\$ 726,000.00
Expense			
Total 5000 · Payroll	\$ 195,580.00	\$ 217,373.77	\$ 192,804.00
Total 5005 · Benefits	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,400.00
Total 5015 · Taxes	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,417.08	\$ 2,800.00
Total 5020 · Utilities	\$ 51,140.00	\$ 44,902.48	\$ 46,471.64
Total 5025 · Insurance	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 9,972.71	\$ 11,850.00
Total 5030 · Vehicle	\$ 2,020.00	\$ 1,751.39	\$ 7,941.00
Total 5035 · Grounds	\$ 9,200.00	\$ 13,025.80	\$ 9,750.00
Total 5040 · Building-General	\$ 25,100.00	\$ 22,327.02	\$ 10,700.00
Total 5045 · Building-repairs only	\$ 13,670.00	\$ 18,761.54	\$ 14,230.00
Total 5050 · Office	\$ 15,300.00	\$ 16,546.08	\$ 11,700.00
Total 5060 · Bank Charges	\$ 83,600.00	\$ 80,416.34	\$ 71,010.00
5200-1 · Centerpoint Daycare Payroll	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 246,728.80	\$ 260,000.00
5200 · Centerpoint Daycare Expenses - Other	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 34,623.86	\$ 2,550.00
Total 6005 · Missions Payments	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 29,511.12	\$ 26,500.00
Total 6010 · Ministries	\$ 32,800.00	\$ 29,470.12	\$ 26,550.00
6012 · Special Speaker	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 775.68	\$ 2,500.00
Total 6020 · Miscel	\$ 16,700.00	\$ 15,986.88	\$ 14,750.00
6560 · Payroll Expenses	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,608.91	\$ 2,500.00
Total Expense	\$ 724,510.00	\$ 792,399.58	\$ 719,006.64
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 14,090.00	\$ 19,264.55	\$ 6,993.36
Net Income	\$ 14,090.00	\$ 19,264.55	\$ 6,993.36



A Message from Pastor Craig

I am truly thrilled to share of ... *"the GREAT things He has done!"* As our world continues to deal with the ramifications of the global COVID-19 pandemic, this church continues to move forward with our mission: **"To Lovingly Guide People into A Life-Giving Relationship with Jesus Christ!"** This has been our focus for the past decade and a half and we have not faltered, the great commandment and the great commission (Matt. 22:37; Matt28:18-20) remain the foundation and the core of who we are and what we do. This amazing church is filled with real people, who share real life together. What an incredible joy and privilege to see how the Lord has sustained this ministry and so many of you in this church through an historic pandemic. Truly we have been blessed!

This past year has been like nothing we have experienced in our lifetime. He has NOT left or forsaken us, and this body of believers is stronger and more committed to the cause of the gospel than ever before. Though for many weeks we were unable to gather physically, we continued to conduct services via live-stream. We also had many groups meeting on zoom over the internet during this season due to social distancing restrictions set by the CDC. The very same words that Jesus spoke to Peter serve as a reminder to us today, Matt. 16:18 - *...I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.* Nothing in this world will stop the work of the gospel message of HOPE and TRUTH. The Journey programs, small groups, and various bible studies throughout the church continue to be the lifeline of many of our constituents. The spiritual formation and growth of this church has increased exponentially over this past year.

We believe that there is only ONE power that can change the human heart, and that is the power of Jesus Christ through the working of the Holy Spirit. We believe that through RELATIONSHIPS, we will become the highway over which the Holy Spirit will travel to change lives. As we abide in Christ (John 15), and pursue intimacy with him, life change happens. We truly believe the foundation of this all is LOVE; The love of God is extravagant and will be the drawing force that brings transformation and healing. At Centerpoint, we believe we will "love more people into the Kingdom of God than we will preach into the kingdom." **Let's keep LOVING!**

As Lisa and I end a 27-year ministry career/calling, and over 15 years as the Lead Pastor of Centerpoint Community church, there are many mixed emotions that we share. We would simply want to encourage you to continue to fan the flame of spiritual passion within your hearts for more of Him. We pray that you will never grow "comfortable" in your spiritual journey. We pray that you will always keep HIM first in your life above all else. (Matt. 6:33.) We pray that you will make it your lifelong pursuit to have an *intimate and abiding relationship with Jesus Christ*, "to know Him and make Him known."

There are countless individuals that I would like to thank personally, yet I realize that is not possible in this brief report. Therefore, I must keep it to just a few key people & groups that have worked the closest with me through the years. I pray that no one will be offended that I am unable to mention your names, you know who you are and how God has used you in my life, THANK YOU! The ministry at this church and what God used Lisa and I to accomplish would simply NOT have been possible without the many individuals that have been alongside us for the journey. First and foremost, I thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for allowing me the honor and privilege to serve Him over the years in full time service. It has been exhilarating and exhausting all at the same time. I would not have chosen any other path, through the good and bad, through the exciting and painful, He has led every step of the way, and blessed our efforts beyond what we would



A Message from Pastor Craig

have ever thought possible. Ephesians 3:20: "Exceedingly and abundantly above what we could have asked or imagined." Secondly, my wife and family for the many sacrifices they have made along the way. My family is my first ministry, second only to Christ. However, learning to balance the demands and responsibilities over two decades has been learning and growing experience. I realize I have not always done it well, or right, thank God for His mercies and grace which are new EVERYDAY! I Love my wife dearly, and no one knows the challenges of a Pastor's wife unless they are one. Lisa is God-fearing, amazing, incredible, strong, confident, supportive, loving, caring, honest, transparent, faithful, loyal, fun, and INCREDIBLE (X7). I am blessed beyond measure and am so excited to see what the Lord has next for us as a couple. My kids are truly amazing, all 5 of them are unique, and different. They have also been "in the ministry" all their lives and deserve a HUGE THANK YOU. They have seen the good, bad, and ugly as well. And through it all, I am thrilled and blessed beyond words to see that they all have an understanding and knowledge of, and most importantly *relationship with Jesus Christ, nothing matters more!*

Our church has an amazing team of volunteers and staff that make it all work. I could not be more proud of all the people who serve as volunteers on a regular basis, THAT IS THE CHURCH! People who have discovered their gifts, and found their place of belonging through serving, both in the church and in the community. Centerpoint has a very strong percentage of people who not only attend, but are CONNECTED, this is a healthy church. I want to thank our church board for their love, support, guidance, oversight, and encouragement. I am grateful for the men who have served me as "spiritual advisors", elders on a very personal level. The talks we have shared, and the support you have given mean more than I can express. Our staff and team are simply the best in the world. We have "volunteer staff", people who serve regularly and oversee significant areas of ministry and receive no financial compensation at all. We have "stipend staff", people who serve hours regularly throughout the week and receive either a housing package (at parsonage) or a small financial stipend. These individuals typically work on average 10-20 hours a week. We have approximately 10 full time daycare employees and part time/substitutes teachers. We also employ two part time facilities and housekeeping personnel to maintain the building, and a part-time bookkeeper. And, we have a few full-time church staff, which include me, Lead Pastor, Zach Dickey, Associate Pastor, and Natasha Dickey, church administrator.

I am thrilled and honored to acknowledge that Pastor Zach Dickey will be leading this church in and through the transition period. I have full confidence in his ability and capacity to love and lead this church very well. Zach has been proven and shown himself faithful to God's call according to Titus 1:5-9, & 1 Timothy 3:1-8. Zach is my brother in the Lord, he is faithful, loyal, honest, trustworthy, and strong. I could not think of a better man to help guide this church with the help of a great team. I love this man and am so thrilled at the incredible man of God, father, husband, and leader he has become. I exhort you all to continue to lift him up in your prayers through this time. The enemy will seek to destroy God's work here, but the Lord has raised up gatekeepers. You must pray for them and stand in support around them as the army of God that you are. God will bring about great victories as you all unite in prayer and STAND FIRM against the wiles of the enemy. I am so proud of you Zach and thank you for staying so true and loyal to me and my family for the past thirteen years. You have been so much more to me than many know. You have never said NO to anything I have asked of you, you have ALWAYS HAD MY BACK, and you have been an amazing partner in the building of HIS church, YOU ROCK! And....you are a mighty man of God, stronger than you realize, I love you brother!



A Message from Pastor Craig

My final Thanksgiving and prayer for you as a close is the charge that Paul gave to the church at Philippi. *“I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, ... For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”* Philippians 1:3-11

May the Lord continue to Bless & Build His Church

Pastor Craig Riportella
Lead Pastor



Women's Ministry

Although this past year continued to have its challenges with the pandemic, the women of Centerpoint did not let that stop them from being in the Word and with each other. Studying God's Word, making disciples, outreach, and building relationships continued to be our focus.

The ladies enjoyed the Bible studies of "The Best Yes" by Lysa Terkeurst led by Natasha Dickey, and "Get Out of Your Head" by Jennie Allen and "Now That Faith Has Come" by Beth Moore led by Mary Connors.

In September, the women began "The Journey" and received national attention by having so many women join the Journey process at one time. To date, Centerpoint has over 50 women in Journey groups led by myself, Barbara Gilbert, Mary Collar, Susan Spencer, and Sienna Haskell, with more groups to form in the future. Lives have truly been changed as the women learn what it means to abide in Christ and follow Him wholeheartedly.

Other women's groups continued to meet throughout the year, including groups for moms of all ages, single women, divorced women, and widows just to name a few. Centerpoint has groups to meet women at all ages and stages of life.

We also continued to have gatherings for fellowship, craft days, and our most loved event - "A Few of My Favorite Things" in December.

In September, we began holding Women's Breakfasts on the first Saturday of each month. The women enjoy gathering for a great meal followed by hearing from speakers on a range of different topics. In November Nancy Gallinaro and Tricia Grant from "Just Love Worldwide" shared and really stirred the hearts of many as they spoke on the issue of human trafficking in Maine. This in turn, led to Centerpoint having a "Giving Tree" for recent survivors of trafficking who are recovering at "Sophia's House" in Lewiston. These women were overcome with emotion as they felt so loved on by the generous gifts provided by our church family.

Over this past year, the women were able to attend several group gatherings hosted by Centerpoint - our District Fall Retreat in October, the District Spring Conference in March, and our CP Women's Retreat in April at Maine Lakeside Cabins in Caratunk. Each event allowed the women to go deeper in their faith as they heard teachings on "Arise," "Grace Wins" and "Finding Joy."

It is an absolute honor to serve the women of Centerpoint. What a pleasure it is to have a "front row seat" to watching God change hearts and lives as we draw closer to Him. To God be the glory!

In His Service,

Lori Reynolds

Women's Ministry Director



Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry at CenterPoint is continuing to grow and strengthen. God is continuing to call the men of CenterPoint to come into a closer proximity with Him and learn how they can abide and been truly transformed.

In the fall of 2020, we had two groups of 10 men each complete the 9 month "Journey to the Inner Chamber" and both groups had commencement & prayer retreats in Bingham, Maine.

From these two groups, four strong disciple makers emerged who are currently disciplining two groups of 12 men each. Both groups have "The Journey to the Inner Chamber" & "Orphan No More" and have begun the 9 month "Journey".

Paul Mitchell & Steve Chestnut are leading group 1 and are at the 3-month point. They have had their first prayer retreat on Moosehead Lake in April and have a second one planned for Bingham in July. We are excited that a couple of the men from Central Church in Augusta & China are part of this group.

The second group is 1-month into "The Journey" and is led by Jeff Pilling & Chris Smith. They will be having their first prayer retreat in Bingham in July.

The power of these retreats has been transforming to the individual man and to the groups themselves. The bonding and brotherhood that is developing is outstanding, building upon a firm foundation that started in 2019. Both groups reflect a diverse group of men with quite different life stories. The impact we have witnessed is nothing short of amazing. Men are learning not only to be disciples but more importantly disciple makers, reaching back to bring others in into proximity.

Mark Reynolds has taken his group of 10 men that completed the "Journey" last fall and has been guiding them through leadership principles and how it applies to an abiding relationship with Christ. These men are going deeper in their understanding of what it means to be "Men of God".

Dean McCaslin has continued to lead the charge with the monthly men's breakfast. He has been getting upwards of 40-50 men to come and fellowship. We have a great base of volunteers who love to cook and each week we have a nugget shared by a man, that reaches men where they are at. Powerful stuff. We have seen a lot of new faces each month and are using the breakfast as a connect point to hopefully get them involved in the Journey.

The health of our men's ministry is solid and getting stronger every day. They have all locked arms to help lead through this transition process. They all know it is not about the man, but all about Christ. These guys are serving everywhere in and out of the church. From the safety team, greeters, parking lot, servers, outreach, home repairs, kitchen, Journey Guides, media and worship team, our CenterPoint men are leading the way.

Andy Collar
Men's Ministry Director



Life Groups

This year has been a very interesting one with our life groups. In June of last year we were in the middle of the COVID pandemic, and most of our groups were either not meeting at all or meeting via resources like Zoom. This led to having to be creative about how we were making sure that people in our church were still connecting and being together. Men's and Women's groups were continuing to meet and were very successful. These groups were and are considered Life Groups.

We are constantly reevaluating what being a part of a life group means. When people are building genuine relationships with each other, whether to be through Bible studies, Journey groups, getting together for dinner or coffee, or meeting online for a hang out, relationships are being built and thriving. We want to encourage everyone to do their best to make genuine connections in the church and identify people that you can live life with. It is extremely important to be connected to people in the church.

A couple of notable things that we were able to accomplish this year with Life Groups are as follows. Having over 50 men and 50 women at least start going through the Journey, which means that they may either have finished or are currently going through it. We were able to host our first online Bible Study through Rightnow Media on How to Read the Bible. We had eight people go through that study and they enjoyed it immensely. This is something we would love to go through and teach again, as it was a very helpful and informative study. In March we were able to start 8 new in home life groups. We want to give a HUGE shout out to our new leaders, as well as to the leaders that continued their groups through the tough times that this year brought.

As we move forward into this next season of transition for our church, I want to encourage everyone to keep getting plugged in. Whether you are serving, in a study, in the Journey, or in a life group, staying connected to other believers is going to be crucial in this season. Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard over the last year to make sure that we have ways for people in our church to connect and share life together! I am extremely excited to see what God does over the next year and beyond!

Zach Dickey
Associate Pastor



CP Kids Ministry

Here in the CPKids Corner we continue to grow, change, and adapt as we navigate a world post Covid. We have faced so much this past year that sometimes it is hard to remember what it all “looked” like before. The way we do, and approach ministry has changed so much. No matter what the world has thrown at us though we still seem to be getting the message of Jesus to the world and growing in numbers.

In October we took a completely different approach to our annual Fall Festival and left our building and went into the City to spread the love of Jesus on one of the darkest days of the year. We had teams of people set up around Waterville handing out candy and maps to our other locations. As with many other areas of ministry you really have no idea of how many seeds are sewn but we know we handed out well over 500 bags of candy that night. After we were all done blitzing the city we came back to church and all the volunteers gathered to have dinner together.

December and Christmas left us coming up with a new way to approach annual kids play. Navigating the worry of sickness and cancelations we decided to pick one day to take pictures and build a slide show pageant. I think we can all agree the results were spectacular and maybe one of the most memorable “plays” we have ever pulled off.

April and Easter again had us thinking out of the box. We handed out over 50 outreach ‘Easter in a Bag’ bags. Our congregation was able to take these and hand them out to friends and neighbors. They contained sidewalk chalk, plastic eggs, candy, and a full-size Hersey bar wrapped with the gospel message.

For Mother’s Day we interviewed some willing kids about their moms and the results were some of the funniest, cutest most heartfelt answers we have heard.

As we move forward into the next year please be in prayer for our ministry, our kids and its leaders. Pray about how you can be a support and maybe a volunteer in this ministry that is always in need of people willing to pour into the lives of the future of the church. Thank you for allowing me to serve another year.

Where He leads, I will follow,

Aimée Carter

Children’s Pastor



CP Student Ministries

In the fall of 2020, desperate to be used by God in a new way and unsure of what He may have in store for us, Shannon and I contacted someone who we thought may be able to help us figure out where God was calling us to be. Months passed, and we assumed we had misunderstood God, until a call from Pastor Craig came. We knew immediately that the time we had waited for was finally here.

We joined the Centerpoint family the first week of December as youth ministry associates and began praying about what vision God had for the youth group. The first time we hung around the youth group was to go Christmas caroling with them around Waterville. We are grateful for the work done by those who have come before us, notably Bruce Crockett, who stepped up to lead this group of young people. What we found in the youth of Centerpoint when we arrived here was a commitment to this church and a genuine love for each other that I've rarely seen anywhere. These qualities I firmly believe have to be cultivated by a leader who is sensitive to the Holy Spirit, and this church has been blessed to have such a leader pouring into the next generation.

In praying for a fresh vision for this youth group, Shannon and I had a very specific principle in mind that manifested itself in a new name for this youth group: Revive.

Northern New England is far and away the most secular and unchurched area of the entire country. Maine is number three on the list of most unchurched states. This means the teenagers that God brings to this church are precious and rare. They need to be disciplined, and they need to be empowered to serve and love those around them as well as speak the Gospel unashamedly with their words and with their lives in order to be a spark that reignites the spiritually dark world we live in for Jesus Christ. They will revive a generation that many of us will never reach.

This year we took fourteen students to youth convention, and I was personally blessed and encouraged by the things I saw from the youth of this church. Their passion in worship and desire to live for God even when its difficult was wonderful and challenging.

I'm happy to report that the fire these young people caught at convention has carried back home. There is a spirit of unity that has enabled student leaders to step up boldly to take part in the ministry. Students have stepped up to help Shannon and I put together a worship team. One young woman is even beginning a Bible study for the youth of the church to help continue to push them and herself closer to Christ. Graduating seniors have expressed interest in returning to help because they want to continue the work God has begun here. The Holy Spirit blessed us with a group of three teenagers with absolutely no connection to our church. One found the church website, decided to show up, and was touched by the Holy Spirit so that she stayed and began bringing friends with her.

There is the beginning of revival happening in the youth of Centerpoint. The seeds that have been planted by those who have faithfully served are growing. We are honored to be here to witness what God is doing, and we are incredibly grateful to all of you for the opportunity to serve.

Thank you to all of our leaders who continue to serve and pour out their lives for the next generation of the children of God.

In Christ,
Ben Philbrook



Centerpoint Daycare

Centerpoint Daycare has been thriving the past year, despite the COVID pandemic and its effects on many local daycares. We have continued to grow reaching 42 children and 12 staff members. Our families have remained loyal, and the daycare has remained strong.

Last fall we opened our newly made preschool room. This room benefits both the daycare and church, allowing our preschoolers to use it during the week, and Kids Church to use it on the weekends. We also began the construction of our new playground last summer, which is loved by all who use it. By the end of this summer, we expect that our new playset will be in to better occupy the older children, dividing the smaller toddlers and babies from our early learners and preschoolers. Our playset has been purchased from locally owned builder and it will complete our needs for the playground.

We went through some difficult times off and on this past year. Licensing rules have changed immensely to keep everyone safe and healthy, but we have been able to modify and work around any new licensing rules that changed. We are incredibly grateful that we only had to close for 10 days after one COVID exposure in our preschool room. We have learned so much about operating the daycare while in a pandemic, and the Lord has provided immensely. Staff has been diligent about cleaning and maintaining a healthy environment for our little ones.

In August we will have open enrollment for our preschool program, which has the capacity to hold 10-12 preschoolers. We are delighted to say that with support from our current families, word of mouth referrals for students has been at an all time high. Parents know that not only do their children come here to learn, but to also be loved on and prayed for by all that work here.

Sincerely,

Becky Cleaves
Daycare Director
(Former)