

Pastor's Report
Congregational Business Meeting
February 3, 2021

Our church meets four times every year to review various reports and affirm the work of our committees and ministry teams. These meetings do not last very long, but they give the church a chance to celebrate what God has done and is doing through His church called Parkview. Our next quarterly business meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 3, 2021, following our midweek worship service. Our bylaws require that the church vote on the acceptance of minutes, membership report, and financial statements. We also have one additional motion for consideration. Please review these materials prior to the meeting and contact the church office if you have any questions. You will have an opportunity to ask questions during the meeting.

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:24-25, NKJV). It seems that even the earliest pastors of churches in the first century had to remind their congregations of the priority of the worship gathering. After all, the busyness of our schedules, coupled with a global pandemic, makes it easy to forego worship services on Sunday mornings. We have been blessed to be able to provide an online alternative for our church family to continue to stay engaged with the fellowship and mission of the church. We will continue to provide a quality online presence even as we encourage our members to return to in-person worship as soon as they feel safe enough to do so. We will continue to maintain social distancing recommendations and between service cleanings in our worship space.

For now, we will maintain some of the changes that have been made in our worship services, such as prepackaged communion cups and offering boxes in the lobby area. We will observe the Lord's Supper on Sunday morning February 7. If you are worshipping with us online, please stop by the church office and pick up your prepackaged communion elements. Thank you for adjusting to the new service schedule of 9:30 and 11:00. We believe that the extra time in between the services allows us to clean, but also creates a less-rushed pace on Sunday mornings that is much more conducive to worship.

For those who are interested in taking the next steps in their connection to Parkview, we are offering a NEXT class on Sunday, February 21, at 12:15. If you have been talking with people in your spheres of influence about visiting Parkview, please feel free to invite them to church that day and then plan on attending NEXT with them. We will have a light lunch and hear about Parkview's vision and mission from the pastoral staff. You can call the church office or register online.

I am grateful to the army of volunteers who make programming and ministry at Parkview possible. We have the best Next Gen Ministry leaders, tech team, and first impressions team. Thank you all for your countless hours of service, your faithfulness to the work of the kingdom here at Parkview, and for your attention to detail as you carry out your respective ministries. I

also believe that we have assembled some of the finest Bible teachers and Life Group leaders in our area. If you are not connected to a small group Bible study, you are truly missing out on a blessing. Please call the church office or stop by our welcome desk on Sunday mornings. We would be glad to help you get connected. We have Life Groups that meet at 8:15, 9:45, and 11:00 on Sunday mornings. We also have groups that meet on Monday, Tuesday and by Zoom teleconferencing. If the pandemic has taught us anything, it has taught us that we need to provide programs that people want to prioritize and then provide options for them to connect.

For those of you who are new to our church, we have a Curves style workout facility called Parkview Fitness. Parkview fitness just celebrated the achievements of some high-frequency participants. If going to church more and getting in shape were on the list of New Year's resolutions for you, then just know that Parkview can help you with both. Thank you to the volunteer team at Parkview Fitness for keeping things safe and sanitized. For information about Parkview Fitness, visit our website or call the church office.

It is a joy to serve with a church family who understands well the concept of generosity. Through your giving this year, we have supported missionary endeavors in the major cities of our nation and in lesser-known people groups around the world. In 2020, Parkview gave a record-high \$151,286 (12% of tithes and offerings given by you) to the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention. The Cooperative Program is an agreement between the Florida Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention to evenly distribute church contributions between state and national missionary endeavors. This money is used to support the work of the churches here in Florida, including the Baptist College of Florida and the Florida Baptist Children's Homes. It is also used to fund missionary work through the International Mission Board and the North American Mission Board, as well as the six Southern Baptist Seminaries. We can't stress enough how far your generosity goes when you give at Parkview.

We were also able to pay down a record amount of debt this year. We paid \$155,000 out of surplus operating cash and just over \$200,000 from designated building fund contributions for a total of \$357,671 (almost \$30,000 per month). We are praying that we can continue this pace in the months to come. If we can, we will be debt free in 46 months. Thank you for your ongoing contributions to our building fund.

Pray for our mission teams. Our Jamaica team will have to delay their trip again this year due to Covid-19 quarantine restrictions in Jamaica. I know that this decision is disappointing for our team members, but we will trust that God's timing and providence will prevail. Our construction team (Builders for Christ) will be looking at a trip this summer and will possibly include some shorter, weekend trips throughout the year. If you are interested in joining either of these teams, please contact the church office. Thank you, Sandy Furches (Jamaica) and Joe Crocker (Builders) for your leadership on Parkview's missionary teams.

Please review the background and recommendation regarding our Eastside Campus. Thank you all for your faithfulness to the work here at Parkview. We are looking forward to a great year of kingdom growth in 2021.

Children's Ministry Report

Parkview Family,

As I write this letter, Emily and I are nearing the end of our fifth year of ministry at Parkview. We are so grateful for the love and support of our church family. You are a constant source of joy and evidence of God's grace in our lives. I thank God every day for this opportunity to serve alongside the staff and families of Parkview, and I'm excited to see how God will work in and through our church family in our next five years together.

Last Saturday, January 23, was our first Upward Game Day. We have about 105 children participating in our basketball and cheerleading league this year, and on Saturday mornings for the rest of January and all of February, we will be hosting them and hundreds of their friends and family members for these basketball games. The majority of the families involved in Upward Basketball do not have a church home, and we get to share the gospel and the love of Christ with these children at each practice and with their parents and grandparents at every Game Day. We have a great team of coaches, referees, and volunteers that are helping us make the most of every gospel opportunity that God gives us through this ministry. Join me in praying for gospel opportunities with the lost through this ministry and for the health and safety of our coaches, volunteers, and participants.

Wednesday night preschool and children's programming has also just relaunched. Over the next five weeks we will be spending each Wednesday night from 5:45-7:00pm with our Concrete and Cranes Vacation Bible School. I know that many of kids were disappointed to miss our week of VBS together this summer, so I'm excited about the opportunity to learn about building our lives on God's love, forgiveness, and promises together. We will fit as much Bible study, missions, games, music, and snacks as we can into each night, so be sure your kids are here to encounter the gospel and engage with the Word of God. Awana Clubs will be back on Wednesday nights beginning in March. You can watch for more information about that over the next few weeks.

On Sunday mornings our preschoolers and children are continuing a chronological study through the Bible with the Gospel Project for Kids. Over the next few months, we will be studying through the Book of Acts and learning about how God established His church and spread the gospel through men and women called to follow after Christ. All of our Next Generation Life Groups are meeting at 9:30 on Sunday mornings and Preschool and Children's Worship meets at 11:00. Those worship times are great opportunities to get involved in our Preschool or Children's Ministries. Leaders during that worship hour serve on a rotation once every month or two and we can always use more help. Let me know if you might be interested in serving and I can share more information with you.

The health and safety of our children and leaders will remain a top priority for us as we relaunch more of these weekly discipleship ministries. We will continue to check temperatures when children arrive and encourage families to stay home when someone is experiencing cold or flu symptoms. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and healthy environment for our kids to learn and grow in the truth of the gospel.

It a great blessing to see God work in and through the lives of the children and students of Parkview. Thank you again for the opportunity to serve alongside our amazing staff and church family!

Thank you,
Daniel Morris

Student Ministry Update

It is hard to believe that we are almost already through January! This new year brings a sense of hope, new beginning, and a reset. God is so gracious to grant us these refreshments. I encourage you to spend time in Ephesians 2:1-10 the following day or so. God is using it to refocus my eyes on the gospel. It is so easy for us to become numb to the gospel! I am praying we would not become numb to the gospel. Thank you for serving your church!

- **Sunday Morning Life Groups**

Life Groups are in full swing again and are ramping up! We are meeting at 9:30 in the Sunday school rooms.

- Please pray that God would use this time to deepen the faith of our Students.
- Pray that the students would be transformed by the gospel.
- Pray that they would have the right view of God.

- **Student Services @ Parkview**

Our student services have been encouraging to me every week! We just finished up our series through the book of James and it was a doozy! I pray that God is using it to set a foundation for our students' theology. We have started a new series titled God's Heart for the Nations. We will spend roughly 8 weeks looking through scripture and unfolding God's heart, his plan, and our role as believers. I'm praying with boldness that this would plant the seeds in our students to be future missionaries. Please pray for God to be glorified in these services; through worship, preaching, and teaching.

- Please pray that these services would be fruitful.
- Pray that students would turn from their sin and trust in Christ whole heartedly!
- Pray that students would have a clear understanding of the gospel.
- Pray that God would move in our student ministry in a mighty way!
- Pray that God will call some of these students to be missionaries!
- Pray that we would fall deeply in love with Jesus.

- **Upcoming Ministry Plans**

Pray for me and our student leaders as we search for ways to better engage the students outside of the two planned services. Also pray as we seek to plan future retreats and camp.

For God's Glory,
JonSeth Sammons

Worship Ministry Report

Parkview Family,

The world has seen some challenging days over the last few months - political unrest, racial injustice, a worldwide pandemic. We might be unsettled, tense, or even anxious for what comes next. The good news is God is not. He is not unsettled. He never has been. He continues to work all things for His glory. Can you see it? It's been hard to see over the last year, but He is up to something, and I want to be a part of it.

I want the collective prayer of Parkview Baptist Church to be "Tune my heart to sing Thy grace." Let's pray to that end – that we would tune our hearts to the things of God. This world is so divided. I pray that the Church would offer something so much more. I pray that we would react differently to the things we see on the news. I pray that we would be shaped more by the Word of God than what we see on Facebook. I pray that we would let the Word of God stir us to be made more like Jesus.

It's been an encouragement to see many of your faces over the last few months. I'm praying for the day that we can all be back together in the same room once again. I pray that you are able to take advantage of everything that we are currently offering in our regular schedule – midweek services, life groups, and Sunday worship gatherings. If you are unable or uneasy about joining us in person, I pray that you are faithfully joining us online. If there is ever a time to be more involved in the local church, it is now.

In regard to our worship ministry, we continue to meet monthly with our choir on the first Wednesday of every month. You will continue to see up to 13 of them on the platform every Sunday. We continue to attempt to do things in a way that is safe and wise. I'm grateful to have them leading us in worship every week. They are outstanding. Make sure to let a choir member know how grateful you are for them when you see them.

If there is any way that we can serve you or pray for you, please don't hesitate to reach out. Stay connected. Love you church!

Soli Deo gloria!

Pastor Skylar

Parkview Family,

We are less than a month into 2021 (a year I felt would never get here), and it has already presented its own set of blessings and challenges. It's with a confusing mixture of heartache and excitement that I look to the future. We have people coming back to church in-person, yet we have also seen loss, as well as those who are suffering from illness and other complications. I'm grateful, in the midst of this, for an unchanging God who we serve, and the consistent gathering of the church to worship him no matter the circumstance.

*The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart from generation to generation.
-Psalm 33:11*

As we navigate this new year, let's commit ourselves to daily prayer for God's guidance and wisdom in our own personal lives, and for the church as a whole. Just because the new year brings optimism and some relief, let's not get ahead of ourselves by forgetting our desperate need for God's mercy every day. When we make plans, we do so knowing that "If God wills" (James 4), we will do so. There is so much uncertainty as we look to the coming months, so let's not neglect our prayer life, nor our trust in God as we move forward.

It's been an incredible season of bringing back a lot of the weekly rhythms at Parkview! So glad to see the choir, children, students and life groups back to campus on a weekly basis. If you're like me, there is a danger to get so caught up in and familiar with your routine, that your mind shifts to a sort of "auto-pilot mode" where you are just checking off boxes on a to-do list. I want to urge us all (myself included) to fight any apathy towards ministry and the gospel that the enemy tries to instill in us. There is nothing more awe-inspiring than the hope of the gospel!

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you believe so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. -Romans 15:13

I am so grateful to be a part of what God is doing through Parkview! Let's make the most of the year 2021 for God's glory.

In Christ,
David Harris

Motion for Consideration
Congregational Business Meeting
February 3, 2021

Background:

In 2018, with the approval of the members of Eastside Baptist Church and Parkview Baptist Church joined together to become one church in multiple locations. The overarching purpose of this effort was to replant a Southern Baptist congregation on that campus that would serve the needs of that community and that neighborhood. Our original plan was to hire a worship associate to lead music and utilize current staff to lead in preaching.

With the turnover in our staff, we were unable to develop a Sunday morning worship service on that campus. We were, however, able to start a Sunday evening service and a Wednesday evening service on that campus. Several families from Parkview attended these services, but we were never really able to develop a core group of people who would make that campus their primary church experience. As we were looking at options for launching something new at Easter 2020, Covid-19 hit and shut everything down.

Since that time, we have focused our attention on developing an online presence that would supplement our in-person worship experience. We believe that the immediate future for Parkview is to concentrate on bringing back our in-person congregation. We need to continue to develop our online platform for continued connections within our sheltered-in-place church family as well as an outreach and growth strategy for our church.

Our worship associate, David Harris, has been instrumental in helping us develop the online presence that many of you have enjoyed. He will continue to lead worship in our student ministry and assist our Student Pastor, JonSeth Sammons, in cultivating a heart for worship among our teenagers in our student ministry. David will continue to assist our worship pastor, Skylar Teel, in planning and leading worship in our Sunday morning services. David will also be responsible for developing additional platforms such as podcasting that will allow the staff to better communicate and connect with our church family.

So, what is happening at Eastside? When churches began to reopen their doors to in-person worship services, Church on the Way, a Southern Baptist church located in the downtown area of our city, re-opened, and very quickly found themselves in a space where they could not adequately maintain social distancing recommendations. Their Pastor, Dale Thompkins, asked if they could use the Eastside campus for the time being while we all waited to see how the pandemic would run its course. The church had been considering options for either improving their existing campus or relocating.

Once they began meeting at our Eastside Campus, the Church on the Way leadership began to sense that the Eastside Campus might be a long-term solution in providing a facility that would maximize their resources and help them accomplish their mission of reaching people for Christ.

We have been asked by the leadership of Church on the Way if we would consider allowing them to make that campus their permanent home.

I have expressed my gratitude on more than one occasion to the people of Eastside Baptist Church for their generosity and the vision that they had for their church building. They gifted that campus to us so that we could work to establish a Southern Baptist presence in that area and on that campus. It may not be how we originally planned it, but by Church on the Way moving into that facility, that original vision has now been accomplished. I spoke with all of the members of Eastside who are now a part of our church family. Some were excited that the facility is being used and will continue to be used as a gospel witness in that area. Others were glad, and understandably apprehensive about allowing another church to finish what we started, but they agreed that it is more about the kingdom than any one individual or church.

Recommendation:

In 2018, Eastside gifted the campus and approximately \$30k to Parkview. We used most of that money to make repairs on air conditioners and to change the look of the worship space. We have less than \$1000 left which should be used to cover any legal costs associated with any legal transactions between Parkview and Church on the Way. With regard to the property, the deacons recommend that Parkview deed the property to Church on the Way but retain any cash assets and some contents (mostly sound equipment and instruments to be inventoried and sorted out by the staff of each church). The deed will contain a clause so that if Church on the Way should ever decide to relocate or if it ceases to be a church that aligns doctrinally and cooperates missiologically with the Southern Baptist Convention, the property will revert back to Parkview as owner.

This motion is made by the deacons so it will not require a second. We will be glad to answer any questions that you may have about this motion, preferably prior to the business meeting. But as always, there will be a chance to ask questions during the meeting..