

Business Packet

1st Quarter | 2023
January 1 – March 31

Congregational Business Meeting
April 26, 2023

- Meeting Agenda
 - Pastor's Report
 - Proposed Constitution and Bylaw Changes
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-

Quarterly Business Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

1. Open
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approve Minutes
4. Approve Clerk's Report
5. Approve Stewardship Report
6. Pastor's Report
7. Old Business
8. New Business
 - See Motions for Consideration
9. Adjourn

Pastor's Report

Mike Tatem

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, April 26, 2023, following our midweek worship service. Our bylaws require that the church vote on the acceptance of minutes, membership report, and financial statements. 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.

In addition to these reports, we will also be presenting material for your review regarding proposed bylaw and constitution changes. We will not be voting on these changes just yet. We have been thinking through the necessity of such changes and will provide details in the weeks to come. Eventually, the Guidelines to Faith and Practice Committee will present recommendations for your approval. I have included in the packet a summary of the changes that we feel need to be made in order to align our governing documents with our current operations and position us to better utilize the giftedness of those whom God strategically places in membership. I expect that within a few weeks we will be in a position to distribute, discuss and eventually vote on the details of the changes.

I want to make sure that every report includes my gratitude toward every person who is engaged with the work here at Parkview. I love the fact that we have people who have invested decades of their lives in the work of the kingdom through their involvement at Parkview, and at the same time, we have people who are just starting their faith journey with us. It really is an army of volunteers who make corporate life at Parkview possible. Easter Sunday was a logistical success because of our volunteer base. We'll trust that the harvest that comes from a faithfulness to the gospel in song, prayer, and sermon will be evident in the weeks to come. Thank you for serving the 700+ people who were on our campus on Easter Sunday.

Our prayer is that God has found us faithful with the gospel that He has entrusted to us. We are grateful that He continues to send people to become a part of our church family. We never want to take church membership or adding new members for granted. Please be intentional about watching our announcement screens in the worship and welcome centers, as well as our social media pages, as we announce the addition of new members to our church. Covenanting with a church for the purpose of the Great Commission is a big deal. I hope you will welcome our new members accordingly.

Our church attendance for the first quarter of 2023 is up about 40% over the average church attendance of the same period last year. That number reflects incredible growth. I am excited to see that growth translate into growth in our small groups as well. We still believe that sustained growth in the church will come when our members study the Bible together in small groups. We want to continue to start new groups this year. If you have never been involved in a Life Group, I want to encourage you to reach out to us and let us help you get connected. We believe that the Christian life was meant to be lived in real community, one that cannot be completely fostered during the worship service only.

I am grateful for the generosity of the Parkview family. After two really encouraging months, the offerings for March were down substantially. Still, we have been able to pay an additional \$45k on debt from operating cash surplus. Building fund offerings were down in March as well. While I thought we would be below \$500k in debt at the April 30 statement, it looks like it will be May when we drop below that significant benchmark. I believe our goal of being debt free by June 2024 is aggressive, but still possible. We have exceeded our goal of \$5k for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for the North American Mission Board. We will look to support One More Child in May and Mission Dignity in June. I am thankful that the generosity of the people of Parkview reflects well the generosity of our Savior Jesus.

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Pastor's Report

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If you haven't already done so, please begin praying for the global impact that our church will make this summer as we take the gospel to the nations. We have teams going to Jamaica, Scotland, and Czech Republic. We also have a team heading to Marianna, FL to work on a conference center that will be used to encourage, equip, and call young people to gospel ministry. Pray for the safety of these teams and that they will see fruit from their labors.

Thank you all for your faithfulness to the work here at Parkview. I love my church! I hope you can say the same.

Proposed Constitution and Bylaw Changes

From time to time, it is helpful for a church to look at its governing documents to make sure that they are up to date and fit the changing climate in which the church carries out its ministry. Bylaws should also be revised to conform to the operations of the church as it develops systems that improve its efficiency in its work.

Changes in the constitution require ninety-day advance notice to all members and must be approved in a called business meeting on a Sunday morning. Changes in the bylaws require thirty-day notice to the congregation and can be approved at a regularly scheduled business meeting. We need to address areas in both the constitution and bylaws.

There are two changes that I think we need to recommend to the church with regard to the constitution:

- 1) Section three identifies our statement of faith as the Baptist Faith and Message, 1963. Given the cultural and ethical climate of today, we would be wise to not only identify the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 as our statement of faith, but also to articulate with clarity that it be the guiding force behind how we interpret Scripture for the purposes of operations, policies, and procedures. We need to be clear in our Scriptural understanding of the sanctity of life, marriage, sexual identity and purity, so that policies that reflect those beliefs can be defended if challenged. Facility usage, hiring practices, and membership guidelines in churches are all under attack by the proponents of the sexual revolution. Updating the language to reflect the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 as our statement of faith will help.
- 2) Section 3 defines our church covenant. The church covenant in principle is good, but it uses some language that I believe should be updated. It seems to have come from the standard Broadman Church Covenant that is, in my opinion, overly behavior specific. I would like the covenant to reflect language of discernment, discretion, and restraint with regard to an overall understanding that the believer is to live carefully in this world, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts accordingly. Bottom line is I want to revise the language in order to be consistent in the enforcement of church discipline across a broader area of behaviors, not just the use of alcohol.

While our bylaws are long and somewhat cumbersome, most of the articles can remain intact. I would like to consider changes in at least the following sections:

- 1) Article three deals with deacons. I would like to propose that we revise the language of section 3, items 2 and 3, qualifications, and provide some clarity to item 4, process for election. I think we need to reconsider how the current bylaws interpret the 1 Timothy 3:12 passage that speaks of a “husband of one wife.” I will not suggest that divorce shouldn’t be considered but that it should not automatically disqualify someone.
- 2) We need to update Article five with regard to the calendar year in which our church officers serve.

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Proposed Constitution and Bylaw Changes

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- 3) We need to revisit Article six and provide clarity to distinguish the difference between committees that are a part of our polity and governance and ministry teams that serve the needs of our congregation. I think that the committees should continue to be nominated by the nominating committee and elected by the church, but ministry teams such as library, hospitality, bereavement, transportation, and others should not be subjected to nomination or three-year term limits. We will retain these ministry teams with updates language in the bylaws, but separate them from what I would call the governing committees such as nominating, stewardship, personnel, and faith and practice. Committees such as missions, ushers, publicity, security, wedding, and preschool coordination should be eliminated. Again, we may retain some of the language of these committees so that we don't lose sight of a need for these things, but we need to structure our bylaws in a way that reflects how we are handling operations now.

I am providing this summary because changing bylaws is a process that requires a considerable amount of time and effort. The plan is for the Guidelines to Faith and Practice committee to present actual changes in the weeks ahead, to provide a time for questions and answers if necessary, and then vote when the required time frames have been fulfilled. Thank you for your prayers and your patience as we work through this process.

Children's Ministry Report

Daniel Morris

Parkview Family,

I am so thankful for the opportunity to worship and serve alongside my Parkview family. It has been exciting to see how God has already worked in and through the families of our church this year, and I can't wait to see what he will do through our summer ministry months.

In January and February, we met and ministered to about 85 families through our Upward Basketball and Cheerleading season. We were able to share the gospel with children at each practice time and with their families and friends at every Saturday morning Game Day. I am so grateful for the team of about 30 volunteers that served each week as coaches, referees, and greeters. Their time and efforts made a kingdom impact in our church and in our city. Thank you for your willingness to serve our community and share the gospel with the next generation!

On Wednesday nights, our kids have spent the last school year hiding God's Word in their hearts through Awana Clubs. They have worked hard to memorize scripture and learned how to apply those words to their lives. We are going to celebrate those efforts and kick off our summer on Wednesday night, May 24. Our Preschool and Children's Ministries will continue to meet on campus each Wednesday night in June from 5:45-7:00pm, but in July we will be meeting off campus at a different home each week. Throughout the summer, we will continue to study God's Word together and learn about God's mission for us each Wednesday night, and in July we might do that around a pool.

On Sunday mornings, our preschool and children's Life Groups 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 life and ministry of Jesus in the gospels. Our preschool and children's ministries have seen some incredible growth on Sunday mornings over the last few months, and that means we need our ministry team to grow as well. If you think God may be calling you to teach or serve in our Next Generation Ministries, let me know so we can start a conversation about it.

Vacation Bible School is about two months away and preparations for that have already started. VBS will be June 26 - 30 from 9am - 12pm, for children that have completed Kindergarten through 5th grade. Our theme this year is Twists & Turns and our children will be learning that following Jesus changes the game. Registration is already open for children and for volunteers, so sign up to bring your kids and to help out for the week at www.pbclc.com/vbs.

In July, we will be taking our 3rd-5th graders to Super Summer Kids at Lake Yale Baptist Conference Center. This camp is three nights and four days on July 17-20, and we have already filled our 24 spots that we have registered for. It's not too late for us to increase that number, but it will be soon, so let me know and sign your kids up now if you want them to join us. Camp is a great discipleship opportunity for our children as they step out of their regular routines and focus on the truths of God's Word. Super Summer Kids is one of my family's favorite weeks of the year and I can't wait to see how God works in the lives of our children.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve with our amazing Parkview staff and church family. Join me in praying that God would bless our mission and ministry efforts this summer; that the lost would be saved and that we would all be more like Jesus.

Thank you,
Daniel Morris

Student Ministry Report

JonSeth Sammons

I believe that God is moving in a big way in our student ministry! God is bringing so much growth in our students. My prayer is that God would grow the faith of our students. I pray that as a church we make it a priority in our life to pour into the life of the next generation. Here are some things to be praying for our students!

Sunday Morning Life Groups

Life Groups continue to bring depth to God's word. Please pray that God would use this time to deepen the faith of our students.

- o Pray that the students would be transformed by the gospel.
- o Pray that they would have the right view of God.

Student Services @ Parkview

Student Worship is my favorite time of the week! We are in a series, "Engaging Cultural Shifts". Be praying that our students will take their faith seriously and share the good news of Jesus with their friends. It has been a great time of encouragement together! Pray that students would turn from their sin and trust in Christ whole heartedly! I'm boldly praying for many salvations at the words of our students.

- o Pray that students would have a clear understanding of the gospel.
- o Pray that God would move in our student ministry in a mighty way!
- o Pray that God will call some of these students to be missionaries!
- o Pray that we would fall deeply in love with Jesus.

Thank you for your continued prayers! Our goal as leaders in the church is to be led by our great shepherd, Jesus. Thank you all for the way you serve our church family. Please let me know how I can be praying for you!

His glory is our reward,
JonSeth Sammons

Worship Ministry Report

Skylar Teel

Parkview Family,

It's a great time to be involved at Parkview. God is using our church to do some special things. I look forward to worshiping with you every week. I hope that you are prioritizing our weekly times together. We gather to remind ourselves of the gospel because we are prone to forget. We need one another. As I lead from the platform on Sundays, I'm encouraged as I look around the room to see people boldly declaring "Christ is my firm foundation. So, I've still got joy in chaos" amid difficult circumstances. We need the horizontal aspect of our worship gatherings. Your presence in the room may be an encouragement to those around without you even knowing it.

Easter week was a great blessing to me. I hope it was to you too. Good Friday is such a sober reminder of the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. This service always impacts me greatly as we meditate on the work of Christ on our behalf. Spending time at the cross allows us to celebrate the resurrection with more intensity and gratitude. Without the cross we would have no resurrection. Easter Sunday was certainly a highlight. What a great day we had making much of Jesus and the empty tomb.

As always, I would love to have more people join us in our worship ministry – whether in choir, band, orchestra, or tech. If you're interested in serving in any of these roles, I would love to have a conversation with you. We can always use more people in every area. Our worship ministry is a great area to find your place of service.

In the area of discipleship, our life groups are doing well. We have a great team of servant-hearted teachers who lead these groups faithfully. We have recently multiplied one of our 8:15 groups into two. Don Gutshall's 8:15 life group has launched Dave Waller's group that meets at 8:15 now as well. Groups are essential to the health of the church. I'm grateful to see healthy organic growth happening in this area of our church. If you see some new faces in our church that aren't plugged into a life group, invite them to yours. We want people to get connected in community here at Parkview. The retention rate on people being involved in groups is much higher than if they simply come to a worship service. Groups are vital!

Over the last year, we've launched a new initiative of deep discipleship. Last fall we asked our leadership to join us for a 6-week class studying some doctrinal topics. This spring, we have invited the entire church to join us for a study on the spiritual disciplines. I've greatly enjoyed these times of gathering around tables to have fruitful conversation about doctrine and shaping ourselves around some habits that lead us to Christ. We're looking forward to doing another 6-week Theology & Doxology class this Fall. I hope you will consider joining us.

I'm thankful for each of you and appreciate your prayers as we continue to move forward over the coming months together, unified, as the church. Let's continue to have a complete dependence on the Lord in everything that happens at Parkview! If there is any way that we can serve you or pray for you, please don't hesitate to reach out.

It's a joy to be your worship pastor. Love you church!

Soli Deo gloria!

Pastor Skylar

Previous Meeting Minutes

4th Quarter | Wednesday, January 25, 2023

- Meeting called to order on January 25, 2023 at 6:54 pm with prayer by Pastor Mike Tatem following Midweek Worship Service.
- Motion made by Quentin Boyle to approve Agenda as printed, second by Sharon Keys, carried.
- Motion made by Linda Hartley to approve Minutes as printed, second by Julian Singleton, carried.
- Motion made by Mark Ficken to approve Clerk's Report as printed, second by George Boutwell, carried.
- Motion and second from Stewardship Committee to approve Stewardship Reports as presented. There were no questions asked. Motion carried.
- Pastor's Report was reviewed and discussed with congregation.
 - Old Business: none reported
 - New Business:
 - A. The Deacons made a motion and second to approve the bi-vocational plan for David Harris. There were no questions asked. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Quentin Boyle to adjourn, second by Wanda Reliford.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm with prayer by Pastor Mike.

Church Membership Report

January 1 – March 31

Church Membership Totals

Beginning (January 1): 1,778

Additions: 21

Losses: 5

Ending (March 31): 1,794

Additions

Baptisms

1. Dawson Khachigan | January 22
2. Lori Perry | February 19
3. Zoey Cook | March 12
4. Scott Moore | March 12
5. Ashley Moore | March 12
6. Madeline Moore | March 12

Letter of Transfers

1. Jeanne VanArsdall | March 7
2. Dery Mitchell | March 7
3. Candice Mitchell | March 7
4. Gavin Cashmore | March 7
5. Alyssa Cashmore | March 7
6. DJ Beil | April 3
7. Tiana Beil | April 3
8. Phil Allen | April 16
9. Kim Allen | April 16

Statement of Faith

1. Brad Hough | February 12
2. Stephanie Hough | February 12
3. Vera Hough | February 12
4. Christy Nicole Wells | March 1
5. Stephanie Peiker | April 16
6. Anita Nottingham | April 10

Losses

Transfers

1. Katrina Counts | Grace Baptist Church
2. Pam Cagle | First Baptist Church

Deaths

1. Emory Alford | January 21
2. Rhonda Russell | February 16
3. Irv List | March 8