



Annual Ministry Review

June 20, 2021

Antigo Community Church is affiliated with the
Forest Lakes District of the Evangelical Free Church of America

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ANTIGO COMMUNITY CHURCH

is a community of
Christ-followers
GROWING IN CHRIST and
MAKING NEW DISCIPLES.

Our VISION is for each
CHRIST-FOLLOWER among us to:
Represent JESUS faithfully and boldly
in words and actions
so the GOSPEL of Jesus
is heard and responded to.

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Annual Business Meeting Agenda

Antigo Community Church

Sunday, June 20, 2021

11am

1. Open Meeting with Prayer - Chairman Tom Duke
2. Call to Order - Chairman Tom Duke
3. Motion to Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting on June 28, 2020
4. Reports from Various Officers
5. Interaction over Ministry Reports
6. Election of Elders
7. Approval of 2021-2022 Budget
8. Motion to Adjourn
9. Closing Prayer

Minutes of the Previous Annual Business Meeting

Antigo Community Church

The annual business meeting of Antigo Community Church was held on Sunday, June 28, 2020 at 11am in the worship center. The meeting was called to order and opened in prayer by Vice-Chairman Tom Duke.

An opportunity was given for any questions or changes to be made to the minutes from the meeting last year on June 30, 2019. No changes were requested. Eunice Rice moved and Jesse Seymour seconded to approve the minutes.

Kellen moved to approve, Steve Sanford to accept the following new members: Michael & Amanda Hunter. Motion was carried.

Eunice Rice asked about future of CrossTrainers. Kellen and Josh answered that it's being worked out.

Keith Cunningham, Brennan Duke, and Charlie Zanayed were elected by an overwhelming majority to serve a 2-year term on the elder board. They will serve along with Tom Duke, Steve Sanford, Todd Stensberg, and Pastor Kellen Lewis.

Spencer Zinchuk moved to approve amendments to the constitution, Jesse seconded.

Quest Center heating system was discussed.

The 2020-21 budget was presented and explained by Ben Wilhelm. Motion was made by Jesse Seymour and seconded by Mary Wilhelm to approve the final budget. Motion carried.

Todd Stensberg closed in prayer.

2021 Ballot

For the Office of Elder of Antigo Community Church

June 20, 2021

The congregation shall elect the lay members of the elder board for two-year terms until six consecutive years have been served (according to the terms of the new Constitution and Bylaws: XI. Bylaws; 3. Organization: B. Boards; ii. Elder Board).

The nominating committee has put forth one candidate, Frank Bernhagen, to serve on the Elder Board. If elected, he will serve on the elder board along with:

- Keith Cunningham, who has served one year of his first 2-year term.
- Brennan Duke, who has served one year of his first 2-year term.
- Charlie Zanayed, who has served one year of his first 2-year term.

The following two elders have served one 2-year term and need to be re-elected to serve for another term. Please indicate yes or no for the elders shown below:

Todd Stensberg..... Yes ____ No ____

Tom Duke Yes ____ No ____

Please indicate yes or no for the new candidate shown below:

Frank Bernhagen..... Yes ____ No ____

Elder Board Report

Tom Duke, Chairman of the Elder Board

Your elder board for the 2020/2021 fiscal year was in constant prayer and seeking guidance on how to effectively lead Antigo Community Church through some pretty interesting times. We started the year saying goodbye to 2 very respected and appreciated elders, chairman Dave Will and Ben Wilhelm. Special thanks to these two men for their service and commitment to excellence at ACC. We then saw an addition of 3 new elders to the team – Keith Cunningham (who had previously been an elder) and two new elders, Charlie Zanayed and Brennan Duke. Our team was quickly embroiled in several very significant projects and ministry needs, which were bathed in prayer and actions.

We agreed on a new heating proposal for the Quest Center, and entered into a contract with Filbrandt Heating, from right here in Antigo. We praise God for how he led each one of you to contribute to this project, and for fully funding (at least it looks fully funded) the furnaces and installation portion of the Quest Center heating project. YOU all were very faithful and contributed over \$130,000 to this project. Thank you! The project is very nearly completed and we have made two very significant payments already, with just the last payment still needing to be made.

We continued full in-person as well as live Facebook feed services throughout the entire fiscal year – this is also an amazing achievement that we praise God for. To Him be the Glory!! Special thanks to our technical team for this accomplishment – especially Pastor Josh Suehs, Jesse Seymour (also our treasurer!), and Ben Wilhelm. We continue to fine tune and improve the video portion of the Sunday Morning Service.

Another exceedingly important issue that we, as elders, worked on was dealing with the resignation of our Senior Pastor, Kellen Lewis, who stepped down at the end of the calendar year. We thank Kellen for his 6+ years of service and dedication to God at Antigo Community Church – and pray for him and his entire family as they seek what God has for them next.

But God – (does this sound familiar from our current studies in the book of Acts?) has been very faithful as we've been faithful to His calling for us. Five elders and Pastor Josh have been very effective in being able to “fill the pulpit” during this interim time between pastors – and special thanks go out to all who have helped fulfill this need. Because of this, and the very effective filling in by Todd Stensberg in managing the internal and day to day affairs of the church, we have been able to move forward without needing to hire an interim pastor. Also, special thanks to Forest Lakes District staff (specifically Jon Payne, Rob Weise and Ken Moberg) for helping lead us through this transition period, which included a Journey Wall exercise in March.

So what's next? We currently have a pastoral search team assembled – and they started their meetings in mid-May. A big thank you to Steve Sanford, Keith Cunningham, Ashley Oakland, Jerry Rice, Tyler Schwarz, Kate Raab, Dave Will and Brittany Golema for their acceptance on the pastoral search team. Please keep praying for them and for the elders and that God would be glorified through and because of Antigo Community Church.

To God alone be the Glory!

Worship

Josh Suehs

Our mission is to create an environment that allows for people to connect with God.

Ministry Update:

This year was interesting as we adjusted for Covid. It brought challenges in Tech and IT which we invested in and organized. Tom Duke stepped up to help schedule and we had a few volunteers commit to helping every week which helped a lot.

New Goals:

- Have more evaluative meetings with teams and team members to see how we can be improving and better serving our volunteers and congregation
- Seek out new volunteers and musicians
- Implement new songs into our repertoire

Facilities Care Team

Steve Petznick

Our mission is to provide a safe, comfortable, and inviting environment where believers can gather to worship and strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ.

Ministry Update:

- Rerouted church downspout to keep walkway drier and less ice buildup
- Installed new heating system in Quest Center for better heating and air flow while reducing fuel cost
- Installed new LED lighting in Quest Center to reduce utility bills
- Created on-site location for snow removal so parking will continue to have sufficient stalls during winter worship services
- Created “Helping Hands” landscape care opportunity allowing members and attenders to give back to ACC in a visual way

New Goals:

- Recruit new members to Facilities Team
- Have Director of Operations more directly involved in Facilities Team projects so team can function more effectively and efficiently
- Update one or more bathrooms in Quest Center to make more user friendly

Global Outreach

Mary Wilhelm, Frank & Monica Bernhagen

We pursue opportunities to multiply Christ-followers beyond the direct influence of ACC in other areas of the state, country and world. We partner in serving people in need and spreading the gospel of Jesus in a variety of ways including financial support, prayer, and sending people to continue following Christ elsewhere as missionaries.

Ministry update:

- Frank & Monica Bernhagen have successfully transitioned into leadership of the GO Team!
- Added Elisha and Crystal Stock (serving as missionary pilots with SIM Air to unreached peoples in Africa) to our roster of supported missionaries.
- Coordinated Missionary Christmas, providing a \$255 gift for each missionary individual or family and one ministry supported by ACC, over and above their monthly support.
- Facilitated 5 presentations/visits from ACC-supported missionaries and ministry organizations.
- Celebrated the work of God accomplished during the years that Gary & Deb Scharping served in Kenya, culminating in a successful church being established among the Borana people and that people group no longer considered unreached.
- Held quarterly team meetings to provide oversight of the budget covering the monthly support of ACC-supported missionaries and ministry organizations; to share updates and to pray for our missionaries.

New Goals:

- Schedule final visits with retiring missionaries (Anne Marie Johnson, Howard & Marilyn Plucar)
- Host 2 Missionary Update/Prayer Meetings that will be open to the congregation.
- Search out more effective and consistent methods of communicating prayer requests and updates from supported missionaries to the congregation.
- Seek two to three new members for the GO Team.

Missionaries and Ministries Supported by ACC

For more information, please contact Frank or Monica Bernhagen

Elisha & Crystal Stock - SIM AIR (added as of May 2021)

Rob Weise - Director of Student and Family Ministry & District Events for the FLD

Trevor & Tanya Kravick - Family Life Today

BM - the Jesus Film

AC & DC - studying and language learning in an Asian country

Carolyn Price - Baptist Pioneer Mission

Don & Kathy Shire - DSM International

Jen & Chad Wojtysiak - InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

Silver Birch Ranch

Hope Life Center

EFCA National Office

Forest Lakes District Office

Howard & Marilyn Plucar - EFCA ReachGlobal (retiring in Dec 2021)

AnneMarie Johnson - EFCA Global Fingerprints (retired as of June 2021)

Local Outreach

Adriana Oakland

Ministry Mission: To extend God's grace by loving and serving those within our direct range of influence, yet outside of our church buildings and grounds.

Ministry Update:

- Antigo Youth Outreach began using classroom 8 in the Quest Center. Their goal is to provide free basic life necessities to students and families in need. They provide clothing, school supplies, personal hygiene products, blankets, and food/snacks.
- The sixth Mission Antigo was completed to care for our neighbors and city in the name of Christ.
- Terri Zinchuk and Francie Tveten were trained by Welcomed to become our Fostering As One advocates. This new ministry focuses on supporting foster families in our church. We currently have two care communities started.
- Church services and events were posted on social media in hopes to reach a wider range of people.
- Hope Life Center periodically used a room in the Quest Center for counseling and classes with clients.

New Goals:

- Have the new lead pastor take over Local Outreach
- Help get two more care communities up and running to support our four fostering families
- Organize more opportunities for our church family to be involved in local outreach

Sunday School

Charlie & Amy Zanayed

Ministry Mission: To be a community of Christ-followers growing in Christ and making new disciples as the children are taught God's Word.

Ministry Update:

Charlie and Amy Zanayed are going to coordinate Sunday School after Jeanie McLellan has coordinated for many years.

New Goals:

- Continue the Gospel Project lessons and support teachers
- Recruit new teachers and helpers

One Way Club

Brennan & Amanda Duke

Antigo Community Church's One Way Club provides the perfect balance of fun and learning to give kindergarten-2nd graders an introduction to Jesus and the gospel through a game time, songs, Bible story and small group time.

Accomplished goals this year include:

- Memorizing a Bible verse every club night
- Stories this year included Old Testament stories from creation to Abraham, and New Testament stories of the life of Jesus
- Maintained an average of about 15-20 kids per night!
- Had many "theme" nights like Packer Backer night, Crazy Hair night, and a One Way favorite, Pajama Night!
- Had a year-end Pizza Party and root beer float night on the last night of clubs
- Worked around the ongoing heating system project
- Implemented a new curriculum that went very well!
- Had a new token system for kids to earn and spend at The Shop that the kids were very excited about!

Ongoing goals:

- Clearly introduce the gospel to unchurched youth
- Help churched kids reinforce and develop their knowledge of Jesus and the gospel
- Bring new kids to club through "bring a buddy" nights throughout the year
- Play fun games each club night that everyone can participate in such as circle games, floor hockey, and bouncy balls to name a few
- Continue with dedicated leadership, in the small groups and as a group in general
- Encourage leaders to memorize verses

New goals:

- Grow our club to reach more kids in our community
- Continue to update our One Way room
- Try to market One Way to the community

CrossTrainers

Tyler Schwarz

We are a Gospel centered youth program, geared towards learning and applying lessons from the Bible. We will have an engaging, fun, and positive atmosphere that will keep kids committed to coming and bringing friends to hear the Gospel each week.

Ministry Update:

CrossTrainers went through a change in leadership this year, but we have kept much of the same routines that were laid in the past, with some different spins on them. We went from having 5-10 students coming at the beginning of the year to consistently being between 18-25 students coming weekly by the end of the year. This is credited to a great group of leaders that invested each week into getting to know the students and encouraging them and building relationships with them. This led to many of the students inviting and bringing friends to come to enjoy this engaging and safe place to meet and talk about the love of Jesus.

New Goals:

- As summer approaches, the goal is to have a bigger summer event to keep kids engaged in club night, even as we will not be meeting during the summer regularly.
- Have a night to engage parents/caregivers more intentionally.
- Many of the students will be 6th graders this upcoming year and we would love to really grow them as leaders before they move into the high school.
- Continue to see 20-25 students each week and encourage kids to continue to bring friends.

REALIFE

Josh Suehs

Our mission is to create a community of Christ Followers who long to make new and better disciples by drawing closer to God and building Gospel centered relationships.

Ministry Update:

This year has been harder as we saw less kids due to Covid. But we have seen new kids come this year which was very encouraging and it seems like we have a really good group of devoted teens!

New Goals:

- Get back to “normalcy” after the Covid year and the heating system left the building in ruin
- Schedule a monthly event that engages youth and encourages inviting outsiders
- Encourage student leaders to step into roles

White Lake Kids' Club

Rich Hess

Ministry Mission: Reaching kids for Christ – Teaching kids of Christ – Kids reaching their families and community for Christ.

Ministry Update:

From March 2020 through the present time, we were unable to have Kids' Club due to the health restrictions. Instead we decided to provide a packet every month from November through April for 24 Kids' Clubbers. The packet was dropped off at their school and contained snacks, crafts and games, Keys for Kids devotionals, and Bible lessons.

New Goals:

- Start up Kids' Club in person in September 2021
- Teach multiple 5-week Bible sessions throughout the entire Kids' Club year presenting:
 1. Who God is
 2. Man's problem due to sin
 3. God's solution through Jesus Christ
 4. Man's responsibility to choose to repent and believe in Christ
 5. The new life in Christ
- Share the Gospel of Christ on a regular basis
- See kids attend SBR summer camps
- Continue to meet 1 on 1 with some kids every week during small group time
- Visit kids at their concerts or sporting events

Antigo MOPS/MOMSnext

Maria Schwarz

We aim to invite all moms in to find community, encourage their mothering and spiritual growth, and share the love of Jesus through authentic connections.

Ministry Update:

In the 20-21 MOPS year, we pivoted our meetings to evenings, with no childcare offered to minimize COVID exposure. We were very thankful to welcome moms that weren't able to come during the day with this switch. We had wonderful support and encouragement from our mentor moms, and the leaders took turns sharing their testimonies throughout the year. We had speakers share on topics ranging from estate planning to chiropractic care. We shared the Gospel, prayed for moms and their families, celebrated new babies, and provided meals. Leaders gave of their time, energy, and talents to encourage members despite the difficulty and change of the past year. We celebrate the ways that moms felt loved and connected.

New Goals:

- We will plan meetings and events in both the evening and daytime to include all moms.
- We will host a Bible study to encourage spiritual growth.
- We will market our group in new ways.

Operations

Adriana Oakland

Ministry Update:

It has been really great working with different ministry leaders and others in the congregation to put on some special programs this past year, including a women's event called Equipping Women for Eternity, the IF:Gathering at Silver Birch Ranch & the Wolf River Refuge, a Mother Daughter Tea, and summer IF:Tables. If you have ideas, please don't hesitate to bring them up! I also worked to improve the usability of our website and sent out weekly news emails to the congregation as well as to parents of our kids clubbers in One Way and CrossTrainers to try to keep everyone informed about what is coming up. Lastly, I have been working closely with the elders as we have been going through this transition time.

New goals:

- Look into other church management systems that may possibly work better for our church
- Keep looking for cost savings for cleaning and custodial supplies, and other services we pay for, such as payroll and snow removal
- Work with Silver Birch Ranch and Nicolet Bible Institute to do another round of carpet cleaning
- Organize and utilize our website for event sign-ups
- Recruit more people to help with décor in the Worship Center

Antigo Community Church Values

1. The Bible is our goldmine.

As the very Word of God, the Bible is the highest authority in all matters that it addresses. Our lives are enriched and situated within the storyline of God's Word which began with a very good creation, which got trashed and distorted by humanity's sinful and rebellious fall, which leaves us hopeless without Christ's gospel work of redemption, which gives us a certain hope for a future, perfected, new creation. A key focus of our gatherings is expository preaching, where Bible passages are unpacked for their original intended meaning and then applied to our lives today.

Best practices: Read the Bible every day. Reading approximately three chapters per day will get you through the entire Bible in a year. If you are very familiar with one translation of the Bible, try reading it in a different, solid translation.

2. The Gospel is our center.

The person of Jesus, and the historical facts of his death and resurrection are the turning point of history that changes everything forever, provides the only ground for our salvation, and lays at the heart of everything we do.

Best practices: spend time every day confessing sin and reflecting on Christ's death and resurrection. Forgive others as God forgave you. Rest on Christ's merits rather than trying to earn God's favor. Consider yourself dead to sin and alive to God. Regard yourself, your time, your body, and your possessions as God's property bought by Christ's blood to be used for God's purposes.

3. Prayer is our fuel.

Through prayer our naturally-deviant wills are brought into alignment with God's will so that we ask God to empower us doing things in us, through us, and among us that are otherwise beyond us.

Best practices: find a time and space each day to intentionally devote yourself to talking to God. Praying out loud can help you focus by engaging more of your body and senses. Jesus taught us to pray in a secret place to be noticed by the Father rather than men.

4. Intentional Discipleship is our mission.

We aim to be followers of Christ who multiply other followers of Christ. Discipleship is a life of trusting Christ alone for salvation that begins with hearing and accepting the gospel, demonstrating faith with baptism, learning the commands of Jesus, then putting those commands into action, functioning as a part of the church body according to unique gifting, and going about daily life making other disciples until the last disciple comes to Jesus and Jesus comes back to us.

Best practices: Discipleship is encouraged life-on-life. Try to have at least 3 discipleship-related relationships. Find a Christian you respect and try to learn from them. Find another Christian with untapped potential, and help them become the person Christ is calling them to be. Establish a friendship with somebody who is not a Christian and let your light shine so that they may see your good works and glorify your father in heaven.

5. Obedience is our compass.

Jesus is our Lord and we orient our lives around him as his blood-bought slaves. As Christ's disciples we are dedicated to learning to obey all the commands of Jesus. Our Free Church forebears went by the motto "where stands it written?" We also want the commands of our Lord to guide everything that we do.

Best practices: Consciously attempt to proactively follow a specific one of Jesus' commands every day. The commands of Jesus are primarily recorded in the New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, but are also recorded indirectly by his apostles in the rest of the New Testament. Matthew 5-7 is the Sermon on the Mount, which is Jesus' lengthiest continuous teaching. Find at least one area of ministry at ACC where you can use your gifts to build up the body of Christ.

6. Grace is our lifeblood.

The one thing we deserve is immediate death and hell. Grace is all the kindness God shows us instead: from life and breath, sun and rain, food and clothing to eternity and salvation. By grace alone we are saved. In grace we stand. Through grace sinners like us can have relationships with God. And by grace we will one day be what we should be in God's presence. In response to God's grace, we aim to show grace when people fail, sin, disagree with us, or just rub us the wrong way. Grace is not tolerance, which ignores evil. Rather, grace is redemptive by confronting evil for another person's immediate and eternal benefit. Without grace, everybody would be spiritually dead. And without grace, human relationships die as well.

Best practices: Regularly remind yourself that you have earned hell, thank God for his grace, then prayerfully ask God how you can help another person be successful. If you see

a need, meet it on Jesus' behalf. Try to do it without being noticed. If somebody thanks you, tactfully deflect the praise to God

7. Loving Relationships are our glue.

First, God loved us. In response, we love God. We love each other. We love other gospel-centered churches including those in our community and those in the Forest Lakes District of the Evangelical Church. We love the church and parachurch organizations. We love Antigo, its people, and the organizations that enrich it. Actively investing in these relationships holds us together as a church.

Best practices: Do lunch with somebody to get to know them better. Never speak ill of others. Build bridges with Christian co-workers. Collaborate with people and organizations that share your passions.

8. Family is our identity.

We are a family of the redeemed: adopted as children of the Father, paid for by the blood of his Son, and animated by the Holy Spirit. We also value earthly families as a lasting legacy of creation and the fundamental building block of human civilization. Anchored by an exclusively committed marriage, a family provides the best environment for raising children and making disciples of the next generation.

Best practices: Have at least one meal per day with family and/or other Christians and include elements such as prayer, Bible reading, discussion about God, or singing. Commit to a life group to develop deep relationships with other Christians from church.

9. Worship is our purpose.

Worship is an appropriate reaction to God for who He is and what He has done. We try to follow Paul's model of thanking God for what he is doing through each other rather than merely thanking each other. For from God, and through him, and to him are all things. To him alone belongs all the glory forever.

Best practices: Live as though what you say you believe about God is actually true. Let people know what you see God doing in their lives, and thank God for them and what God is doing in them. Do everything to direct praise to God rather than yourself.