

# Calvary Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:00 PM

Held in the Driveway of Kim Larson (thank you Kim!) with social distancing

## Purpose

*Together in Christ Empowered to Be and Make Disciples*

**Attending:** Pastor Tim, Pastor Dean, Pastor Naomi, Vicar David, Janel Skindelien, Sara Bennett, Mike Haugsby, Elissa Nelson, Craig Holmgren, Jena Berget, Shane Baker, Kevin Hanson, John Kappers, Holly Ulrich, Kim Larson, Britta Willenbring, Jeanne Ashburn, Karen Loge

## Call meeting to order – Mike Haugsby

## Devotions by Jeanne Ashburn

**Approval of June 8, 2020 and June 18, 2020 Council Minutes** – Holly Ulrich motions to accept. More than one seconded the motion. Correct the spelling of Janel Skindelien. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** – Craig Holmgren – The numbers in the dashboard report do not reflect the Payroll Protection monies that will be forgiven by August 8<sup>th</sup>. Revenue was \$48,463 in the general fund and \$2,292 in the capital fund for a total of \$50, 785. Expenses were \$74,746. Craig moved to accept the report and this was seconded by Kevin Hanson.

## Staff Reports

1. Pastor Tim – Working on outdoor ministry committed to preaching the bible. Staff celebrates the generosity of the council and congregation in this evolving situation. If anyone has a problem or question, that is why staff is here. Talk to us.
2. Pastor Naomi – Heading to camp house this weekend. Able to open up to 25 people. Liz is one. Highly recommend the Scavenger Hunt. We had 3 generations socially distancing in separate cars. The Calvary Pavilion (Bethesda grounds) has been used several times generations. Thinking about fall. Plan A, B, C.
3. Pastor Dean – Two baptisms have been done, one in the near future. Three weddings coming up, with Plan A, B, C. There have been more hospital visits. The last memorial was a learning experience. The service was done with people ushered to seats, used staggered pews. Visitation had cleared tables and chairs from the Friendship room. People kept a little less distance. The next funeral service is a week from Friday. Will recommend visitation be held at the family's home afterward. We are trying to follow guidance and wish to keep people safe.
4. Vicar David – He is working on flexible planning for the fall. Starting to think about ways to connect with outside home visits with all faith formation families before the start of school. Face book pictures and connection using #CalvaryToGo. Current book study is Trouble I've Seen. The final paperwork has been sent in to the Church at large and the Seminary.
5. Janel – Working toward fall. The staff hopes to connect with all 3 year olds to 6<sup>th</sup> grade before fall with an appropriate bag to encourage family togetherness and faith. Tomorrow (7/15) will be a socially distanced check in at the Calvary Pavilion. Staff will have "asks" going forward for help transitioning to fall.

## **Board Reports –**

1. Children and Family – Elissa Nelson - meets Thursday 7/16.
2. Board of Finance – Craig Holmgren – nothing else.
3. Board of Outreach – Nothing for council
4. Board of Stewardship – Kim Larson attended a webinar with Vanco, the church based finance system Calvary uses for electronic giving. The webinar was on how to stay connected and reopening in Covid-19. There is an excellent resource library, also.
5. Board of Worship – Did meet last week in the pavilion for a debriefing of the July 5<sup>th</sup> service. A lot was learned on positioning and other details. Discussion on July 5<sup>th</sup>.
6. Board of Youth and Family Ministry – Didn't meet

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Debrief on July 5<sup>th</sup> and moving forward.**

1. We had seven volunteers in bright yellow vests who checked off people who had RSVP'd and added people to the list as they came in.
2. The grass was mowed with lines 15 feet apart (thank you Duane!). It was easy to tell people to put their chairs on the lines.
3. Will make better announcements at the beginning of service that it is ok to remove masks and where online the bulletins will be.
4. We will use bigger stickers to count better in the future.
5. We will reach out to acolytes, altar guild, lectors, ushers, etc. for help.
6. Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> the trailer (thanks to Butch Haug!) will be on the Bethesda blacktop for the congregants comfort. Dean has suggested that the blocked street be used for drive up worshipers who do not wish to get out of their cars.
7. More robust messaging to come even if you don't RSVP will be sent out with a reminder to bring chairs or blankets. We will have chairs available if necessary.
8. A sound system similar to the one used has been purchased from the Jean Holmgren memorials.
9. We will have communion 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays using sealed juice and wafer cup. Enough volunteers would allow us to distribute with congregants staying in place. This will be a learning curve.
10. Any questions on the day should be answered by Tim or Sara.
11. Weather cancellation will be announced on Face book, the website and radio.
12. The Opening Calvary Safely Task Force will meet in early August to discuss next steps, but does not recommend indoor worship until after Labor Day.
13. Online will continue indefinitely – it has been well received and extends our reach.

### **Vicar David's end of term – Congratulations and a round of applause.!**

1. Vicar David – He has been grateful for being at Calvary while facing the challenge to balance work and seminary. He is grateful to his colleagues for the collaboration and experiences in faith formation, confirmation, building relationships with staff and congregants. He feels more called to move away from music and into Pastoral care and preaching. He would be open at this time for a one year call to Calvary.
2. Pastor Tim – Covid-19 has thrown normal away. Discussions with the Synod indicated we need a Ministry Site Profile, which we have. A Call Committee can be established by the Church

Council. Then there is job description and interview. The culmination is a vote by the congregation. There are steps in place, perhaps a drive by ballot.

3. Craig Holmgren has explored the financial implication. The impact for 2020 for 4 months would be about \$1200 as we budgeted for David through December. For 2021 it is 8 months at about \$3400, more for part time music. It is worth noting that the endowment funds paid for some part time music.
4. At this point staff stepped away and the lay council had a robust conversation about a potential call. Fiscal responsibility, the respect and love for David, the uncertainty of the next year due to Covid-19, what staffing will really work two or three years from now and the changes (mostly increases) in pastoral duties during the pandemic were all part of the discussion. Every one spoke at least once to ensure all facets were examined.
5. Shane Baker moved that we initiate a call committee for a one year call for David Severtson under the guidelines established by the Synod. Kim Larson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Closed in the Lord's Prayer led by Kim Larson**