

Calvary Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Tuesday, September 8, 2020 7:00 PM via Zoom

Purpose

Together in Christ Empowered to Be and Make Disciples

Attending: Pastor Tim, Pastor Dean, Vicar David, Sara Bennett, Mike Haugsby, Pastor Naomi, Jena Berget, John Kappers, Holly Ulrich, Kim Larson, Britta Willenbring, Karen Loge, Sandy Hanson, Charles Ulrich, Nikki Erickson, Kevin Hanson, Jeanne Ashburn, Michelle Kotrba, Elissa Nelson, Michael Nelson

Call meeting to order – Mike Haugsby

Devotions – Mike Haugsby

Icebreaker – Pastor Naomi

Approval of August 11, 2020 Council Minutes – Holly Ulrich motions to accept the minutes of August. Britta seconded. Janel Skindelien should be listed as attending. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Craig Holmgren noted Income was \$57,436 and expenses \$67,929. That is a deficit of \$12,493. PPP funds are currently scheduled to come off the books in October.

Staff Reports

1. Pastor Tim – Grateful for awesome staff.
2. Pastor Naomi – Confirmation Sunday 9/13/20. The retreat in August went well. David is working with Naomi on the Schoology platform. The 7th, 8th and 9th graders will meet in person 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. Using the “flipped classroom” with homework on Schoology and discussion in person can lead to deeper conversations. Small group leaders lined up. We will work in small groups a lot this year.
3. Pastor Dean – The need for hospital visits is checked daily. Three weddings have been done. 9/12 will have wedding out in Bethesda property with people on green space at 4 PM. The audio system has been very helpful. The 14th begins Grief Care in Bethany Hall. Baptisms have been performed here and elsewhere.
4. Vicar David – Hopes we can connect more, using congregation and small groups, not just staff.
5. Janel – Thanked council for the vacation. Working on faith formation, consulting with the synod and other congregations. Kick off will be a 9/20/20 event outdoors in the green space. Struggles with faith formation consulted other churches and synod. Will move to “family style” faith formation on 10/4/20. This will be in Bethany Hall the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month to start. It will be similar to Wednesday’s dinner church. Survey out to families about comfort levels. Presentation of 3rd graders’ bibles on 9/20/20, 3 year olds’ bibles 9/27/20.

Board Reports –

1. Children and Family – Michelle no meeting.
2. Board of Finance – Request for fund for cameras. Moving forward to bring that forward tonight. The 5 cameras make it easier for us to do picture in picture (we have 3 now) and the system would allow live recording. Looking at endowment funds, capital special funds,

- and the Putnam long term market fund. Craig moves to purchase cameras, Kevin Hanson seconds. The motion was tabled to discuss the possible new communications staff position. After much discussion, this possible position will wait. Motion for cameras passed, with Jeanne Ashburn abstaining.
3. Board of Outreach – John Nothing new for council.
 4. Board of Stewardship – Met two weeks ago. We are still in flux. With service in Oct. we can have a mix. Video for renewable video for online giving. Also the covid time and talents sheet. Still evolving.
 5. Board of Worship – Jeanne stated work on 2 topics. The cameras will allow us to live stream and record the 9 AM service. They are for the sanctuary. Second was the addition of the new service in Bethany Hall. We need to recruit and train members to work the tech. Shane has “idiot proofed” the tech. and addition of new service in Bethany Hall. Live stream and record 9 am service.
 6. Board of Youth and Family Ministry – Sara reports there will be a bonfire at Peter Johnson’s at end of month.

NEW BUSINESS

Call Committee update – Holly Ulrich states David’s interview is Thursday as Pastor Cook wanted to meet with the committee before the interview. To go forward we will need a special session of council, then 2 weeks’ notice of the congregational meeting. The vote could potentially be 9/27/2020. It has complications as the votes must be cast at church. We believe we need 104 votes and the sanctuary holds 140. There can be a Zoom component as long as the votes are cast at church.

Topic of the month: Calvary in 2021 – Pastor Tim led the discussion.

A robust discussion about the connections we need to make. Calvary to Go is just a start. We need to move beyond just focusing on worship. We need to interweave outreach and visitation. Staff roles are evolving. Down the road we will want someone to do communications.

Children and Family want more activities when the weather is nicer. We need to encourage more young families to stay, rather than dropping kids off. Work on small groups and mentorship. More connectivity with young families staying around rather than dropping kids off.

We need to make sure we keep connected with those not comfortable with indoor/outdoor services. Staff visitation is important. There is a big need for the food shelf and this is food shelf month.

Dean suggested when a family brings kids to baptism from afar, or marry from afar follow up back into their respective communities. We need to pay attentions to new people.

We can use the arts and music, perhaps a virtual choir.

Communication needs to systematic. One elderly couple has only had one call. Perhaps a program to call once a week like coffee over the phone would work.

Identify people who are gifted at connection. We were working on time and talents assessments until Covid hit.

Stewardship is caring for one another. We need to be a connected community who cares for each other. Small groups are probably the best way to go. Revive the Stephen Ministry?

This does circle back to a communications person who can be a clearing house for this?

People need to be invited to be involved. Involved people connect better.

Closing Prayer – Pastor Tim