

Calvary Council – Together in Christ, Empowered to Be and Make Disciples

Tuesday April 12, 2022, 7:00 p.m. Friendship Room

Present: Kim Larson, Shawn Swenson, Elissa Nelson, Gen Halvorson, Sandy Hanson, Jodie Gulbranson, Michelle Fernholz, Keith Neumann, Teri Sokulski, Pastor David Severtson, Ace Bonnema, Pastor Naomi Mahler, Karina Rice, Naomi Powers Baker, Caleb Hanson, Pastor Dean Johnson, Kevin Hanson, Richard Wog, Amber Willis, Erica Mathews, Shane Baker, Karen Loge

Phone: Janel Skindeliem

Guests: Brad Rice, Larry Rice, Duane Amundson, Krista Willis

President Kim Larson opened the April 12, 2022, Council Meeting.

Devotions-Pastor Naomi led the Council in “Dwelling in the Word” of Scripture passage Luke 10: 1-11.

President Kim Larson conducted a straw poll/written survey to members of the council about the amount of time allotted for council meetings. He also reviewed the importance of written board reports and asked that they be turned into Teri at the Calvary Office by the Thursday before council meeting.

Two consensus items were passed by the council appointing Cathy Halbritter to the Worship Board and Jodie Gulbranson to the Outreach Board.

Calvary 150th Anniversary Celebration

Krista Willis from the anniversary committee shared a video that was made for our 150th anniversary celebration. This video will be used at the Synod Assembly in June of 2022 to celebrate churches that are celebrating milestone anniversaries.

The anniversary committee is also planning activities with the 50's drive in, an outdoor Blue Grass Worship Service, and in December of 2022, Bishop Peterson will be preaching at our services.

Krista Willis thanked Lavonne Hookom for her work on the 150th celebration.

President Kim Larson also recognized and thanked Krista Willis for her hard work in the church office while Calvary was understaffed.

First Fruits Agenda Item-Calvary's Strategic Plan/Building Design Task Force Review

Strategic Plan adopted approved by the congregation in 2014 was discussed. Brad Rice, Larry Rice and Duane Amundson gave a history of the Building Committee and the plans that were designed for Calvary in the past years.

Collaboration discussion with representatives of Vinje and Bethel Churches

President Kim Larson, Vice-President Shawn Swenson and Pastor Dean Johnson discussed the meeting they had with representatives of Vinje and Bethel on April 5, 2022, and how we could collaborate on projects/ideas. What are the churches and the community's needs? How could we collaborate? Discussion was held and more meetings will be held in the future.

Previous Council Minutes- Minutes for the March 2022 Council Meeting were not emailed to the council members. The minutes will be emailed to the council in May 2022 and will be approved at the May Council meeting.

Treasurer's Report-March Financials- Shane Baker reported \$204,570.43 in income for three months ending March 31, 2022, against a budgeted \$208,831.40, leaving a deficit of \$4260.97. Expenses for the three months ending in March 31, 2022, were \$235,551.83 against a budgeted \$225,986.76 for an increase in expenses of \$9565.07. Therefore \$13,826.04 under Calvary's budgetary plan. However, we received ERC monies of \$73,844.64 due to COVID19, which helped the bottom line. Calvary's net income for three months ending March 31, 2022, was \$45,163.49. The board continues to work on a balanced budget. Kevin Hanson made a motion to approve financial reports, Karen Loge seconded Motion passed.

Ministry Site Profile: Mary Jo de Cathelineau reported on the Ministry Site Profile. The committee met on March 10, 2022. The committee decided they needed to receive more direction since the council had started reviewing the strategic plan that was approved by the congregation in 2014. After discussion with Pastor Dean, a second meeting will be held with committee members in the near future.

Constitution 023/Bylaws Revision Update: Pastor Naomi gave us an update on the Constitution/Bylaws Committee. The revisions on the new constitution and bylaws were voted on at the annual meeting in January of 2022. The changes will be voted upon again at the annual meeting in January of 2023. They are also reviewing how the council is structured. They will ask feedback from the council and offer a proposal.

PLEASE SEE ALL WRITTEN REPORTS:

Executive Board: See written report. Mary Jo de Cathelineau reported that the Executive Committee discussed Calvary's Strategic Plan and discussed the collaboration potential of Calvary, Vinje and Bethel congregations in the future.

A discussion was held on Mamrelund Lutheran Church of Pennock and their need for pastoral care and services. A meeting was held with Mamrelund Lutheran Church representatives, Kim Larson and Mary Jo de Cathelineau in regard to having their youth join our youth for confirmation and youth activities. Other ideas were discussed such as their church being able to use our live worship services on their screens in Mamrelund.

Pastor Dean noted a typewritten error was made on the Executive Board minutes under item number 7. Minutes should state, the last two Sundays, offering has been collected in the amount of \$8000 and \$19,000. Motion passed by consensus.

Board of Children and Family: Erica Mathews reported that the Easter Egg Hunt for the community was a huge success. The board has an event planned each month through the month of October 2022.

Board of Youth and Family: Karen Loge reported that they are working on activities for 6th to 12th graders, including a bonfire, swimming event and a chalk sidewalk event. The board tabled ideas for the younger adults for now.

Board of Outreach: Ace Bonnema reported that the Board of Outreach met with the director of UCAP, which works in nine counties in our area. The Board was given an overview of UCAP programs in our area and the discussed the gaps of services in our community. Many people are suffering from homelessness.

Board of Stewardship: Amber Willis reported that they will be focusing on gratitude and focusing on the Calvary Connect.

Board of Finance: Shane Baker reported that the board of finance is working on several projects. They are working on cyber security, lawn mowing quotes and insurance. We also received \$73,844.64 in Employee Retained Credit Funds. This was a result of COVID19. A big thank you from the church council to Bill Fenske for aiding us in determining and collecting the funds.

Shawn Swenson also discussed the Anderson proceeds of the farm sale. Documents have been signed with Thrivent.

Board of Worship: Mary Jo de Cathelineau deferred to the written report. The worship board will be reading a book called, "Launching a New Worship Community." The board will be discussing this book to find new ways to engage members in worship. The board also discussed goals. In addition, the worship board was given permission by the COVID task force to resume regular communion.

Pastor Dean Johnson Report: Pastor Dean brought forth names of members that have agreed to serve on the Building and Grounds Committee. Members are Kevin Christianson, Lori Holmgren, Joel Halbritter, Tom Gilbertson, Karen Loge, Dave Schmidt, and Chuck Ulrich. Motion passed by consensus.

Pastor Dean reported that Bob and Connie Dickerson asked to display some of the signs that were made for the Ukraine on the Calvary property. The proceeds from the sign support the children in Ukraine and our Calvary's youth mission trip. Council supported this.

Pastor Dean also reported that Cory Johnson has volunteered to strip Calvary's parking lot. He is speaking with Kevin Christianson about this project. Calvary will be paying for the paint. The council approved.

Pastor Dean also reported that Teri Sokulski has worked morning, noon and night during this Holy Week. Thank you Teri!

Pastor Naomi Mahler Report: Pastor Naomi reported that the Creation Care Team is working hard and have 150 trees that are to be given away on Sunday, April 24, 2022, to members. Please stop by and plant a tree.

Pastor David Severtson Report: Pastor David reported that the youth will be going to Denver this summer. The 50's Drive In will be on June 26, 2022. The last unit of confirmation will resume on April 20, 2022 and confirmands will working on their final unit, "Being Curious about Our Neighbors."

Pastor David continues to work on the "Befriender Program." There are nine individuals interested in helping with this program.

Janel Skindeliën: Janel said a thank you to Erica Mathews and Pastor David for all of their help while she has been out of the office. She thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers. The last day of Sunday School will be April 24, 2022, and there will be a talent show on May 1, 2022. Please have kids sign up for the talent show.

Naomi Powers Baker: Naomi reported that Easter plans are underway. There will be brass for the Easter service in addition to special music. A choir has been formed for Easter and hopefully will meet again in the fall. The bell choir is also going to be playing in May 2022.

New Business:

President Kim Larson stated that the Executive Committee and Council have work to do on the strategic plan and our next steps.

Adjourn-Lord's Prayer

Submitted,

Mary Jo de Cathelineau
Council Secretary