

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

Council Minutes

Tuesday May 10, 2022, 7:00 p.m. Friendship Room

Present: Kim Larson, Teri Sokulski, Pastor Naomi Mahler, Mary Jo de Cathelineau, Elissa Nelson, Keith Neumann, Erica Mathews, Karen Loge, Cathy Halbritter, Naomi Powers-Baker, Michelle Fernholz, Caleb Hanson, Amber Willis, Jodie Gulbranson, Kevin Hanson, Shane Baker, Shawn Swenson, Pam DeKraai, Pastor Dean Johnson

Present by Phone: Pastor David Severtson
Guest: Laura Warne-Endowment Committee

President Kim Larson opened the May 10, 2022, Council Meeting. President Kim Larson thanked Cathy Halbritter for joining the Worship Board Committee and serving on the council.

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

2. Laura Warne, member of the Endowment Committee reported on their meeting on April 25, 2022. They organized and made decisions regarding funding requests. The Endowment Committee is Chaired by Gordy Lindblad, Recording Secretary is Anne Fenske, Treasurer is Laura Warne. The other 3 members are Karen Rinke, Mike Schroeder, and Bob Dickerson.

Currently the Endowment Fund has a balance of \$680,000 which has been in existence for 24 years. The ELCA Endowment Fund which is governed by the By- Laws of Calvary Congregation is directed to disburse on an annual basis up to \$25,000 for the purpose of "enhancing the mission outreach of Calvary Lutheran Church". The Endowment Committee recommended the following projects be selected for funding to the Finance Committee and Church Council.

- 1) Summer Mission Trip for Amanda Mathieson for \$2000.00.
- 2) Pizza and soda pop for the Middle School Faculty and Staff for an all day and early evening parent- teacher conferences as they are our neighbors next door for \$350.00.
- 3) For a short summer mission trip to Rebecca Laurence for \$500.00.
- 4) Bethesda Homes at North Pointe- New London for Chapel/Stained Glass/Paraments for \$10,000.
- 5) \$3000.00 to the Willmar YMCA for youth scholarships.

The Committee is required to meet quarterly. The next meeting is scheduled for June 27th to consider any further requests. The Endowment Fund is funded by members thru Legacy and Planned Giving and Memorial Gifts.

3. President Kim Larson reported on the straw poll/survey taken on the allotted time for council meetings and the First Fruits Agenda Item. The poll results from council members are to keep the allotted council time the same.

4. President Kim Larson led a discussion on the First Fruits Agenda Item-Calvary's Strategic Plan. We focused on two questions for May. What are Calvary's strengths, and do we need a Task Force to review? Discussion was had on both questions:

- A. **What are Calvary's Strengths? Council responses included:** excellent staff, local core parishioners, music, intentional visitation/deaconesses, Pastoral calls during COVID, Balance Sheet in strong position, great volunteers, Communion, Baptisms, three strong Pastors with diversity and strong training, Christ and Bible focused, strong heritage and tradition.
- B. **Task Force Review: Things to think about?** Vision, past and present, addressing our funds, our weaknesses, what is the purpose of our strategic plan?

5. Trinity Group (Calvary, Vinje, and Bethel) – President Kim Larson and Pastor Dean Johnson updated the council on the conversations they have had with Vinje and Bethel and the possibilities of collaboration. What are the specific areas in our churches that we can revitalize and advance our collaboration?

6. Karen Loge made a motion to approve the March/April Council Minutes. Seconded by Kevin Hanson. Motion carried.

7. Treasurer's Report-March Financials- Shane Baker reported \$293,242.69 in income for four months ending April 30, 2022, against a budgeted \$278,441.80, leaving a surplus of \$14,800.89. Expenses for the four months ending April 30, 2022, were \$314,047.67 against a budgeted \$301,315.79, leaving an increase in expenses of \$12,731.88. Net income for the month was \$57,990.16. Shane Baker made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and Kevin Hanson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Shane Swenson reported on the Jerry Anderson Fund. Proceeds on the sale of the land have been invested in Thrivent.

8. Mary Jo de Cathelineau reported on the Ministry Site Profile Committee. The committee met on Monday, May 9, 2022. The committee is drafting a survey to put on the website for members to fill out. This also will be mailed out to members who do not have access to the website.

9. Pastor Naomi gave an update on the Constitution/Bylaws Revision Update. They are continuing to meet and are reviewing the bylaws. An oral report will be given to the council in July of 2022.

PLEASE SEE ALL WRITTEN REPORTS:

Executive Board: Kim Larson reported that the Executive Committee reviewed the Strategic Plan. They discussed strengths and perhaps a 5 to 7 task force committee.

Board of Stewardship: Amber Willis reported that they will be focusing on collaboration with different boards.

Board of Worship: Mary Jo de Cathelineau deferred to the written report. The worship board approved having one worship service at Calvary at 9:00 a.m. during the summer. Svea will be worshipping at 10:30 a.m. The worship board discussed the book they are reading called,

“Launching a New Worship Community.” The board will be discussing this book to find new ways to engage members in worship.

Board of Youth and Family: Karen Loge reported that they would be holding an event called “chalk the walk” on May 22, 2022. The board will be holding a bonfire in July. They are also looking forward to meeting with both boards of Children and Family and Youth and Family.

Board of Children and Family: Erica Mathews reported that the board did not meet tonight so no report was available.

Board of Outreach: Pam DeKraai reported that the Board of Outreach reflected on the meeting they had with UCAP and how they can follow up with helping their mission. One idea is helping LSS with Meals on Wheels. They have also been discussing the Racial Justice Network that Cathy Halbritter and John Dean have been working on.

Board of Finance: Shane Baker reported that the board of finance have been reviewing many projects. They have been looking at the end of the year projections. They have been reviewing the Svea Agreement and the Building and Grounds five-year project plan. Some projects in the five-year plan include roof bids and furniture bids.

Pastor Dean Johnson Report: Pastor Dean reported that Naomi Powers-Baker and Pastor David Severtson were out of the office for a bit due to COVID. Janel Skindelien is back from hip surgery. Pastor Ingrid Skilbred will be done with her work at Svea Lutheran on May 20, 2022. Sheila Quinn, Ministry Communications Coordinator, will be back in the office on May 19, 2022.

Pastor Naomi Mahler Report: Pastor Naomi reported that she has been meeting at the Goodness Café on Thursdays. This is working out well. This ministry will pick up again in the fall. The confirmation students and youth had dinner out in downtown Willmar and worked with the Racial Justice Network. This was a very positive experience.

Pastor David Severtson Report: Pastor David reported that he is feeling much better. The Befriender Ministry training will be postponed for one week.

New Business: None.

Adjourn-Lord's Prayer

Submitted,

Mary Jo de Cathelineau
Council Secretary