

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

Council Minutes

Tuesday September 13, 2022, 7:00 p.m. Friendship Room

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

President Kim Larson opened the September 13, 2022, Council Meeting.

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

2. Approval of August 2022 Council Minutes- A motion was made by Richard Wog to approve the August 2022 Council Minutes. Keith Neuman seconded. Motion passed.

3. Strategic Plan / Taskforce Review- Shawn Swenson reported on the Strategic Plan Taskforce. One meeting has already been held by the taskforce on the strategic plan. Each member of the taskforce is to review the current strategic plan and bring their ideas to the next meeting being held on September 28, 2022. The taskforce is looking to make a more concise plan. The taskforce will be looking at past information and current trends.

A motion was made to appoint Toni Bonnema to the strategic plan taskforce. Motion was approved by consensus.

4. Call Committee- President Kim Larson discussed the Call Committee. A Pro-Temp Chair has been appointed and the Call Committee will be meeting on September 21, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. to go over the Ministry Site Profile and the process of calling a Pastor. Pastor Stephen Cook from the Synod will be in attendance as will the Strategic Task Force members.

5. Staff Consultant – The Personnel Committee along with the Executive Committee is recommending that a Staff Consultant be hired to examine the staff needs at Calvary. This will be brought back to the Council for approval.

6. Faith Formation Update – Pastor David discussed that a committee has been formed to help with the transition of faith formation. They will be meeting and discussing the needs of the Faith Formation at Calvary. Erica Mathews has volunteered to help with the Children and Family Coordinator position until the position can be filled.

7. 150th Anniversary Update – Pastor Dean reported that the 150th Anniversary Committee is planning the Anniversary events for December. There will be a Chapel Service on December 3, 2022, followed by a meal. On December 4, 2022, the Bishop Dee Peterson will be here for both services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. The Sunday School program will be held during the 10:15 a.m. service.

8. Treasurer's Report - August Financials- Shane Baker reported approximately \$48,000 in income for the month ending August 31, 2022. Expenses for the month ending August 31, 2022, were \$69,466.99 leaving a deficit of approximately \$20,700. Total year to date deficit is \$28,703.43. Shane Baker made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and Karen Loge seconded the motion. Motion carried.

It was recommended by the Finance Board for boards to look at their budget items for the 2023 year and submit them to the Finance Board in November or December to prepare the 2023 budget.

PLEASE SEE ALL WRITTEN REPORTS:

Executive Board: President Kim Larson referred to the written report of the Executive Board.

Board of Stewardship: Caleb Hanson stated that the board has met and will be doing a special fund appeal for stewardship. The board will also be planning an appreciation activity to recognize Church volunteers.

Board of Worship: Michelle Fernholz deferred to the written report. The board is discussing hospitality and friendliness at Calvary. They will be discussing this in September and October.

Board of Youth and Family: Karen Loge reported that the Board of Youth and Family have been meeting. They have two youth events planned. In October the youth will be decorating doors in the education wing. In November the youth would like to have a potluck.

Board of Children and Family: The Board of Children and Family have been meeting and they have been planning Rally Sunday. Rally Sunday will be on September 18, 2022, and there will be an outside service with a carnival. The Board is also planning a farewell party for Janel to thank her for her dedication to Calvary and her years of service to the children and families of Calvary. The board is also planning a Trunk or Treat in October and a movie night. The noisy coin offering will be going to "Foster Stitches," this year.

Board of Outreach: Ace Bonnema reported that the "God's Work Our Hands," was received well in the congregation. There was a great member turn out and all the objectives of the day were met.

President Kim Larson informed the Board of Outreach that they may be contacted by "The Fortress" in Willmar regarding their program.

Board of Finance: Shawn Swenson informed the Council that they have been reconciling the different Jerry Anderson gifts and proceeds and determining where each fund can be utilized. For example, we have the Narthex fund, the capital fund, and the land sale fund. We also have interest being earned.

Pastor Dean Johnson Report: Pastor Dean reported that Grief Care commenced and there was 28 people in attendance. He will be attending the Svea Council on Thursday, September 15, 2022. He also wanted to let the Council know that the Pastors go to the hospital everyday if there is someone there to visit. He will be attending the monthly building and grounds meeting tomorrow at Calvary.

Pastor Naomi Mahler Report: Pastor Naomi reported that the “God’s Work Our Hand’s,” was a positive experience and objectives were met. She reported updates on the ELCA and that the Restructure of Governance for the ELCA may be found at ELCA.org. She also talked about the resolutions that are being made regarding land acknowledgements for Native Americans.

Naomi Powers-Baker: Naomi discussed a virtual workshop that she attended along with Pastor Naomi. The workshop was on how to enhance worship. They looked at different worship series and how to improve online worship. She has also been busy working with the bell choir and regular choir. She has youth leading Rally Sunday, and she is also working on the 150th Anniversary Service in December along with Christmas.

Pastor David: Pastor David discussed the Faith Formation Team and the volunteers that have stepped up to help with the transition due to the Children and Family Coordinator vacancy. He also stated that the volunteers that have taken the Befriender training will be commissioned. A reception will be held for Janel for her 10 years of service and dedication to Calvary and their families.

Pastor David also thanked Calvary for the ministry we have with Svea. This has been a great opportunity for us as a congregation. He wanted to thank Svea for their willingness to modify their schedule.

Teri Sokulski: Teri reminded to please let the office know if you have a meeting scheduled so that she can put it on the calendar. She also stated that “fall is here, and the church has come alive.” The office has been busy!

New Business: None.

Adjourn-Lord’s Prayer

Submitted,

Mary Jo de Cathelineau
Council Secretary