

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

### **Council Minutes**

**Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 6:00 p.m. Friendship Room**

Council Members in Attendance: Caleb Hanson, Amber Willis, Janel Skindelien, Shawn Swenson, Mary Jo deCathelienau, Bridget Pederson (in-part), Corey Nelson, Brian Henrickson, Shane Baker (in-part)

Absent: Teri Sokulski

Pastor & Staff in Attendance: Pastor Dean Johnson, Naomi Powers-Baker, Erica Mathews, Victoria Larsen

Shared Meal Time

Devotions & Prayer – Pastor Dean Johnson

Council Business:

- MOTION: Adoption of the May 2023 Council Minutes. Brian motioned, Amber seconded. Passed.
- Finance report for May discussed, investment funds are holding their value. See report for more detail.
- AV Upgrade & Bids – Shawn shared info from the Finance Committee about the bids that are coming in; Mike Schroeder is working hard on this bidding process. Costs could be \$120-180k. Discussion about hiring a consultant for this task and what would this cost; what needs are there for a committee.
  - o Council Discussion: Should we start fundraising with stewardship? Feedback brought up that the congregation would like an update. Finance Committee will help find volunteers to assist Mike in the bid process.
  - o Shawn has plans to do a mid-year update from the council in the bulletin and will include this info.
- MOTION: Move for Stewardship to develop a plan for fundraising for the A/V Project and present to council in July or next meeting. Motioned by Amber, second by Janel. Passed.
- Bridge/Interim Pastor Updates – Executive Committee met with a potential candidate, she is discerning if she wants to assist us in that capacity, asked us to contact her by July 15th to see if she wishes to pursue this opportunity. Shawn asked the Bishop for additional names, no new names at this time.
- Pulpit Supply List through August reviewed. Review of the payment schedule for each Pastor who assists – Synod guidelines for pay plus mileage and housing (hotel), if needed. Pastor Ingrid will be meeting with staff about confirmation in the fall.
  - o June – Pastor Dean and Pastor Ingrid
  - o July – Pastor Dean and Pastor Ingrid and Pastor Elizabeth
  - o August – Pastor Dean and Pastor Ingrid and Pastor Elizabeth
- Personnel Manual update – had a meeting to review the draft, good discussion and should have a manual, being renamed Employee Handbook, by the fall for the council to review.
- Strategic Plan – Shawn brought up the need for a strategic plan and when should this happen.

- Council Discussion regarding pursuing this now versus waiting for a lead Pastor. Strong interest in hiring a Strategic Planning Consultant. MaryJo will find bids for 3 people and bring to July or next meeting.
- Other Business – Bridget brought up the need to continue the work of the Constitution Revision Committee, the ByLaws need to be addressed by outlining the duties of the church committees, the 9-person council, and finalize the org chart. Shawn stated Bridget to chair this committee.
- MOTION: Bridget motions for a ByLaws committee consisting of 5-6 lay members and 1 staff. MaryJo seconds. Passed.
- Committee Reports:
  - Stewardship Committee – no updates
  - Worship Committee – no updates
  - Youth Leadership Team – created a youth room, starting a Bible study
  - Creation Care Team – asking to donate plastic benches earned from plastic film recycling endeavors to other places – Calvary can only house so many. The Team plans to put a plaque on the bench stating where it was donated from.
    - Council Discussion – permission not needed, just inform the congregation where they are donated to – likely the bulletin/messenger.
  - Endowment Committee Update – The Committee along with the Finance Committee recommend funding the following requests:
    - Willmar Area Women’s Fund - \$1,000
    - Thomas Bonnema - \$2,000
    - Kandiyohi County Area Family YMCA - \$3,000
    - SW MN Synod - \$1,500
      - Council Discussion: Questions were asked about should more be given to the Synod? Pastor Dean stated they recommend \$1 per confirmed member – that would put us at around \$1,900 but we are currently approving \$1,500. No decision made as to increasing the dollar amount.
  - MOTION to approve Endowment Committee Request – Brian, second – Caleb. Passed.
  - Building and Grounds Committee - \$130,000 bid to repair the parking lot.
    - Council Discussion: should this be part of our strategic plan to incorporate any ideas for building and/or additions. We want to avoid tearing up new parking lot for any land improvements. No recommendation to approve this cost, at this time.
  - Call Committee Update – had two interviews and they both declined second interview.
  - 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Team – happening on June 25<sup>th</sup>, committee is meeting bi-weekly. Will need communion servers for that day. Svea will be coming to Calvary and no service in Svea.
- Staff Reports –
  - Naomi – went to Synod Assembly – update on that – went great – she will write a blurb in the newsletter about her experience. Calvary only sent one representative and she would like to see more representation next year.
  - Erica – confirmation kids at camp this week; GLLM Camp at the end of the month; things are going great with Youth Leadership Team; youth room; Bible Study started; Skatin’ Place is June 30<sup>th</sup>.

- Pastor Dean – memorial service on Thursday, lost the oldest member of our congregation (100 years old) today. Need a motion to accept the new members. Some other new members coming this summer. Checking the hospital regularly. Continue to communicate with Svea every Monday morning to stay connected.
  - New members – Lucas & Kayle McCann, Caleb & Macy McCann; Madelynn Brockman; Steve & Jeannie Kling; James Kitzmann.
  - MOTION to accept new members MaryJo, Corey seconds. Passed.
- Next Meeting(s): July 11<sup>th</sup> and/or August 8<sup>th</sup> – Dinner Volunteer (Brian)
  - July Meeting – will happen if Chair - Shawn calls it