

Calvary Lutheran Church Council Minutes
Tuesday, September 10th, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
Friendship Room

Attendance: Caleb Hansen, Brian Henrickson, Shane Baker, Lori Holmgren, Bob Dickerson, John Dean, Harley Aalfs, Bridget Pederson

Staff: Pr. Wayne, Pr. Amy, Pr. Dwaine, Naomi Powers-Baker, Paula Lueders

Absent: Mary Jo de Cathelineau, Marie Fett

Shared the Meal from Caleb

Devotions: Pr. Amy

Guest: Jack Behr, Co-Chair of Creation Care Team presented

Cathy Halbritter, Co-Chair is at Ray of Life – Creation Care Team Collaboration Meeting between Vinje, Bethel, and Calvary otherwise would have joined us tonight.

A brochure and letter was previously sent out to all Council members. Jack shared the group started in 2019 as a team under the Outreach Committee and are currently not reporting to anyone and looking to adopt the covenant and add the Committee to the organizational chart of Calvary. Looking for formal support for some activities we want to pursue like environmental practices in the building and grounds, exploring energy opportunities, advocacy involvement. ELCA has groups and guidance and local people on staff to assist in the mission.

Asking for council to adopt the Congregational Care for Creation Covenant. Bob Dickerson motioned to adopt it, Shane Baker second. Discussion followed asking how the children and youth are involved, shared how youth have been involved in the past, and Jack expressed strong interest in having youth involved going forward. Approved and passed.

Adoption of Minutes – Harley moved, Caleb second. Approved. No discussion.

Staff Reports:

Paula: Cameras around the building currently don't record, we can see who's coming and going. Need to get this fixed. Lots of things happening with school starting like Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, voting was held here, Cub Pharmacy will bring flu shots and COVID vaccines 11 am to 2 pm on 10/7. Update if we donate to New to You and say it's obo Calvary then we get gift cards from New to You. This past time the gift cards went to Family Promise. Membership update is Lydia Freese transferring out to Clara City – Emmanuel Lutheran.

Naomi: Fall programming coming up – Rally Sunday is outdoor at 9:30 am on 9/15, Sunday School is starting, 2 services start 9/22 – Saturday and Sunday 8am will be traditional, 10:15am with praise band. 11 Bell Ringers in the group now. Singing for Fun is next Wednesday, 9/18, at 5:45 in the Chapel.

Pr. Amy: Program year is getting going, preparing for Sunday School and Confirmation plus Confirmation Sunday. Wednesdays prior to confirming we will be having pizza and guest speakers about life after confirmation. Confirmation Sunday is on 10/6/24 at 10:15am - 14 will be confirmed. There are 62 registered for Sunday School and looking for more teachers – team teachers opportunities available. Substitutes will be helpful too. We have filled the Confirmation Guides positions but will be open to more that want to be there or sub. Friends are always welcome is a message Pr. Amy will be sharing with the youth. Pr. Amy is working on a High School thru Young Adult Ministry – fun activities, service projects will be planned. Lori Holmgren signed up as a sub. Pr. Amy thanked everyone for being welcoming, wearing name tags, staff answering my questions, etc.

Pr. Wayne: Visits at hospital, Bethesda, Compassionate Cottage, Copperleaf, Rice Care, and home visits have been happening. Tracking people and families as they make adjustments in their life. These visits are leading to people getting engaged or re-engaged with Calvary. Some baptisms are coming up. Working hard at building relationships with Calvary.

Pr. Dwaine: Updated preaching rotation and we have been advertising the schedule. Explanation of rotation of preaching and presiding. Pr. Dwaine praised the outstanding staff and expressed appreciation of what they do. Marie is currently on vacation.

Update on the Family and Youth Position – advertising this nationwide, 5 synods, and 2 seminaries. Approached by a Deacon that works Family, Youth, and Outreach. A job description has been shared with this person. Reviewed financial costs for a Deacon with Council. Discussed the need for a chairperson for a call committee if this is the direction we go in for that position. Questions about the process for hiring the Youth and Family opening discussed. Pr. Dwaine will email the posting and job description to all Council Members plus the locations of all the advertising for the position. Pr. Dwaine shared that he would like in the hiring process or call process parents of a child and teen in the congregation as well as a High Schooler. Bob Dickerson questioned being

able to afford this position given our financials. Bridget Pederson stated her belief that the congregation, especially families, would expect the position to be filled regardless of financials. Multiple members asked for a special meeting if a vote is needed prior to October's Council Meeting on this topic.

AV Project: Group would like to be updated on this topic. Brian will follow up with the committee and/or Reach.

Finance Committee – request for a limit increase from the aide fund is being requested. Bob motioned, Lori second. All in favor. Approved.

Financial Report / Updates – see reports. Pr. Dwaine updated on the financials of the Outdoor Worship and compensation from the other congregations. It was discussed that we would like info from the Finance Committee earlier than same day however, our meetings are on the same day. Pr. Dwaine and/or Paula will follow up with Shawn, Committee Chair, and see if there is wiggle room for meeting dates/times; maybe Council needs to move their meeting??

Strategic Planning Committee Update: This committee would like to be able to spend up to \$12,000 on a Strategic Planning Consultant; Council was alerted via email prior to tonight's meeting about this request. John Dean makes formal motion, Shane Baker seconded. All in favor. Approved.

Security Update: A potential company is being talked with about the security at the church. Calvary's North and South Doors would have a ringer, main door would be open, cameras would be made to record. Only main door open unless there is an event that needs lots of doors open like a funeral, church service, etc. Technology could be added in the future to use a code to get in. The process is moving along for getting quotes and information about this need. Paula shared the company has been good to work with.

Committee Reports: No formal updates turned in. Verbal update from Bridget Pederson about the Bylaws Committee meeting with Pr. Amy on 9/16 regarding Faith Formation. Bridget reminded the group we will need to form the Nominating Committee soon.

Next Month: Lori Holmgren will be gone. Harley volunteered for food and devotions.

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 7:51 p.m.