

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
5/17/2021**

Present: Bob Fingland, Glenn Kraft, Gary Klopf, Rock Foster, Kendra Hines, Paul Davis, Sharon Misuraca, Jenn Bader, Gene Unverfert, Rebecca Hilleman, Pr Josh Brecht, Pr Amy Stewart

Excused: None

Guests: None

7:02 Opening and Devotions

1. Bob Fingland opened the meeting at 7:02 PM and verified a quorum was present. This meeting was held virtually via Zoom due to Covid restrictions.
2. Pr Brecht opened the meeting in prayer and shared a devotional. Pr. Brecht revisited the previously shared book the Stewardship team is using calling “Abundance” and recommended that the council use this book as well. Please message Pr Josh if you want to order a hard copy book, kindle or any other option. Josh shared some reflections on the book “Canoeing the Mountains.”

7:14 Consent Agenda- Sharon moved to approve, Rock Foster seconded. Approved unanimously.

1. Approval of Agenda for May 2021 Council Meeting
2. Approval of Minutes for April 2021 Council Meeting
3. Approval of Committee and Staff reports as submitted (See Report Package)

7:18 Key Update/Recommendations Agenda

1. COVID Update
 - a. Jamie’s request for an 8 person choir to sing-council identified the covid task force as the appropriate group to review this request
 - b. Group did attempt to get some feedback about mask wearing while inside in service. This was a recommendation of the Covid task force. Discussed what steps are the most appropriate in helping those interested in being able to attend services. Discussed the continued need to generate feedback both from those attending as well as those not attending. The next step may be masking for only those individuals who have not been vaccinated-however the council is seeking a more definitive recommendation from the task force.
2. Membership Report-Pr. Brecht-no notable trends. Did have 2 baptisms occur for children of families that are not members, which is unusual.
3. Finance Reports-Rock Foster-April we were over budgeted general fund contributions. This continues that trend for YTD. The summer is typically lower for contributions, so its unsure how this trend may or may not continue.

7:53 Discussion/Decision Agenda

1. Welcome Committee-Signage-request to add a rainbow to the signage on the exterior of the building. Considering putting this on hold at the moment due to other issues.
2. HR Committee updated members-Sharon gave an update-this group has met and reviewed HR policies and updated as needed. 3 people had roles that should be non-

- exempt and therefore will begin completing a timecard. This will begin in June. Also beginning next calendar year, time off will be an accrual system.
3. Stewardship-Glenn Kraft \$500 grant from Synod was received. Year to date giving is currently strong, Glenn will provide some slides to present at the semi-annual meeting to encourage continued giving over the summer.
 4. Future staffing needs
 - a. New high school ministry position. Rock moved to go into executive session. Glenn Kraft seconded. Approved unanimously. Gary moved to go out of executive session, Rock Foster seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - b. Pastor Amy's expanded role: Pastor of Discipleship effective June 1, 2021
 - i. Ministries of children, youth, parents, college students and young adults
 - ii. Small group ministry, adult education, Building Blocks, preaching and worship
 - c. Pr Amy's sabbatical-July/August-discussed needs to cover the gaps while Pr Amy is out. Hiring process going through June, and whatever can continue while she is gone will happen. Pr Amy is working on coordinating tasks to complete prior to her sabbatical as well as planning for the fall.
 5. Congregational Meeting-June 6, 2021 at 12:15pm-letter with agenda and ballots have been sent out to the congregation.
 - a. Hybrid in person and virtual
 - b. Voting by ballot only for council and nominating committee, etc. Did also discuss the use of a voice vote for items such as budget changes and cost of fixing the roof.
 - c. Potential to fund some of the benevolence reductions in the 2021 budget
 - d. Congregational vote required for increases of 1% beyond budget, Bob recommended a motion at the meeting to add back in half of what was removed in this years budget. And funding additional staff responsibilities and positions that have been changed this year..
 6. Roof Leaks-current estimate at 80k-still getting additional bids on this
 7. Council Retreat-September 24-25. We are hopeful by that point we will be able to do something in person together. Still working on identifying a good location.
 8. Pr Josh-shared some thoughts and discussion around the overall needs of the church and how to best align the congregation. Specifically with the changes we have experienced in the past year or so, how to pull different groups together to focus on our mission and vision and how it plays out in the world.

8:58 Closing and Prayer

Glenn Kraft moved to adjourn. Sharon Misuraca Seconded. Passed Unanimously.
Meeting closed at 8:59 PM with a prayer from Sharon Misuraca.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kendra Hines
Congregation Secretary

