

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2023**

Present: Jill Thompson, Sharon Misuraca, Jan Thompson, Lanny Schnipper, Ed Seuc, Bill Ericson, Amy Fulbright, Larissa Hautekeete, Greg Mueller, Marcus Raymond, Pr Josh Brecht (Zoom), Pr Amy Stewart, Pr Varinia Espinosa

GOALS for Meeting:

1. Council learns more about spiritual discernment.
2. Council members monitor Strategic plan progress and task teams.
3. Council reviews and deliberates budget proposal.
4. Governance and Fiscal concerns are addressed.

7:01 Welcome & Devotion: Devotional and opening prayer were presented by Pr Josh from Spiritual Discernment. “Be open to what God has for us.”

7:10 Approval of Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Sharon Misuraca and seconded by Greg Mueller. Approval passed unanimously.

7:12 Consent Agenda: A motion to accept the consent agenda was made by Bill Ericson and seconded by Jan Thompson. The motion passed unanimously.

7:15 Retreat Debrief and Follow-Up:

1. Evaluation Results and Additional Thoughts, presented by Ed Seuc. Overall members felt seen and heard, content was valuable and relevant, topics were addressed and discussed goals were met.
2. Report to Congregation, presented by Jill Thompson. The Report has not yet been sent out but will be sent in the form of a mailing and/or email. A few minor changes were made by Council.
3. Roadmap for Council Work: Review the graphic, for where we are headed as Council – is it helpful to see how these parts will work together over time to achieve our plans (Thriving Church is our Potential Goal)
4. Next steps are to add specific measurables to work: Enhance and Build Income Streams, Growing our Spiritual Discernment Muscles, Educating Ourselves on Decline of Religious Participation, Continue Work on Our Strategic Plans, Continue to Support Leadership Development, and Begin Planning Process for Visioning Church into the Future.

7:30 Fiduciary Responsibilities:

Fiduciary:

1. Monthly Financial Reports, were presented by Lanny Schnipper, indicating a projected deficit, without including the ERC funds. Building Blocks is within their budget.
2. Budget Preparations: A planning worksheet was presented and discussed. The HR and Finance team representatives will meet with Pastor Josh regarding some select areas that need to be better refined. There are 2 larger special expenses coming up, which we may ask for a congregational special appeal. We plan to have a final budget to be approved by Council at the December

Council meeting. It will then be presented to the congregation at the January 2024 Congregational Meeting.

8:31 Task/Strategy Team Updates:

1. Building/Intruder Safety Protocols Team, presented by Bill Erickson. Steve Donaubauer, who has work experience in security, has agreed to be the at-large member for this team.
2. Policies-Legal and Insurance Review, presented by Jill Thompson. Julie Deay has helped to look at those, and presented to Susan Fox to review both our Child Safety Policy and Harassment and Stalking Policies. After these reviews, the team will be meeting again to discuss any possible needed changes, which should be able to be finished and approved by January or February.
3. LifeWise StL Update: Sonia Francis has agreed to be the Chairperson for this team.
4. Feed the Need STL Board: Eric Hilleman has agreed to be our official liaison on the Feed the Need STL Board. A motion to accept this nomination was made by Lanny Schnipper and seconded by Greg Mueller. Motion was approved unanimously.
5. Asset Development Team will be appointed and will look at having some focus groups.

8:46 Assignments and Closing: Jill Thompson offered the closing prayer. A Motion to adjourn was made by Jan Thompson and seconded by Ed Seuc. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Thompson
Congregation Secretary