

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2024**

Present: Jill Thompson, Sharon Misuraca, Jan Thompson, Lanny Schnipper, Bill Ericson, Greg Mueller, Marcus Raymond, Pr Amy Stewart, Pr. Varinia Espinoza

Excused: Ed Seuc, Larissa Hautekeete, Amy Fulbright, Pr Josh Brecht

Guests: Marc Tenholder, Kevin Nichols, Glenn Kraft

GOALS for Meeting:

1. Council learns more about The Nones and reflect on its implications for the work of Council.
2. Council members monitor Strategic plan progress and task teams.
3. Council review results of Mid-Year Congregational meeting.
4. Council receives the report from the Audit Committee.
5. Governance and Fiscal concerns are addressed.

7:13 Welcome & Devotion: Devotion and Opening Prayer were presented by Pr. Varinia

7:19 Welcome & Introduction of New Council Members: Team building activity: sharing a significant spiritual experience that we have each had.

7:34 Team Learning: Jill Thompson presented a summary and lead a discussion of the sixth chapter of The Nones, “What We Can Change and What We Cannot”. This included forces we cannot change: globalization & secularization, Niebuhr quote, listen to human stories, economic mobility, politics, Key: how people relate to each other, sewing seed.

7:40 Approval of Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Sharon Misuraca and seconded by Marcus Raymond. Approval of the motion passed unanimously.

7:41 Consent Agenda: The motion to accept the Consent Agenda was made by Lanny Schnipper and seconded by Greg Mueller. The motion passed unanimously.

7:43 Reflections/Discernment Based on the Nones: led by Jill Thompson. In light of what we learned about the Nones:

What might God be calling us to do?

How does what we learned shape our values and guiding principles going forward?

Does it help us to focus on what we are deeply passionate about? (Hedgehog Principle)

8:03 Policy – Fiduciary Responsibilities:

Fiduciary:

Audit Report, presented by Glenn Kraft. This year we are on our 2nd part of the 3-year process. Council appoints the members of the committee, although Council cannot be on the team.

Findings/recommendations on the 5 sections from this year:

Policies and Procedures: No formal financial policies currently exist.

The finance committee will be assisting with making up policies and procedures.

Income-Offerings: Adding an additional statement to the annual giving report, which will add another control over proper receipting of giving for tax purposes.

Income: Receipting and Reconciling: A policy should be devised to ensure large amounts of cash from various special events can be secured and counted with dual verification.

Disbursements: A restrictive policy regarding issuing checks before services are rendered needs to be revised.

Fixed Assets: An addition to the bi-annual appraisal, which is completed by the church insurance company, would help to represent any new assets more accurately on the balance sheet.

Monthly reports including Building Blocks, were reported by Lanny Schnipper. At the current time, we continue to be in good shape financially.

8:31 Asset Development Team: Preliminary lessons which we have learned from the listening sessions were presented by Jill Thompson, to provide new Council members with background for this team. Some timelines have been discussed. Based on these sessions, we may need to do some additional education for the congregation,

8:35 Monitor Strategic Planning: Progress on the Strategic Planning was presented by Jill Thompson.

Building/Intruder Safety Protocols were presented by Bill Ericson. A meeting is scheduled for July 11 to review the documents that were made available, to set up our own policy.

LifeWise: A couple of members of the team have had to step back, so suggestions for new team members are now open. A goal to plan several activities, planning, inviting, etc. was also presented.

8:42 Time for Reflection: Survey Results, presented by Jill Thompson. Personal reflection on the Council survey.

Thank You to outgoing Council Members!

Marcus Raymond graciously and helpfully took over another person's position for a year, for which we are grateful!

Sharon Misuraca has been the Vice President for 2 terms, which included annual reviews of staff, personal issues, and exec team to evaluate the lead pastor's performance. We are all very grateful for all she has done and has added to the Council.

8:46 Assignments and Closing: After the closing prayer from Pr. Amy, a motion to adjourn was made by Bill Ericson and seconded by Lanny Schnipper, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:47.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Thompson
Congregation Secretary