



CALVARY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Calvary Lutheran Church

September 18, 2023 Council Minutes

Members Present: Katie Rentschler, Cheryl Whitchurch, Pastor Hans Dahl, Bruce Luehmann, Jana Brandt, Mark Christianson, Mark Stromswold, Ann Stehn, Jeff Rodel and Kathy Hungness.

Members absent: none

Meeting called to order by Jana Berndt at 5:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Hans Dahl lead the council in prayer.

Mission Sightings: Jana

1. Book of Mark-Opening the Bible and having the Bible pamphlet to go along with the lessons.
2. 437 kids signed up for Wednesday night programming.
3. Generosity of the congregation
4. Food Shelf and Backpack Attack generosity
5. The choir is a wonderful addition to traditional worship

Leadership:

- Lead Pastor Review: Jana and Hans have a date for his goal setting and will come back to Council with the results.
- Staff Structure: Organization Chart was reviewed, and employee retention was discussed. The Connect Coordinator and the Guest Services positions have been budgeted for. Katie will start advertising for the Guest Services position first.

Dashboard Update: Katie shared that of the 437 students signed up for programming, over 100 of them are new to programming this year.

2024 Capital Appeal:

Bruce, Katie and Hans met with the Feasibility team to discuss the appeal. Hans has been making private visits to lead donors. This will continue through October. The goal is to have verbal commitments from donors by Spring. After that time the appeal will go out to the rest of the congregation. September-October 2024 will be the focus for the completion of the appeal. Letters will be going out to original members that pledged for the original addition. The Feasibility team stressed that clear communication about the financial status will be key.

2024 Stewardship Campaign: October communication will be going out to members for 2024 General Fund pledging, alongside our "Because of You" worship series.

Bruce reported the mortgage balance is \$3,476,000. By the end of this week a payment of \$75,000 will be paid on the principal. By October 2024 we will still be \$3.1 million in debt at the end of the 5 year period. The upcoming capital appeal is to pay off the rest of the loan. Additional items that are to be considered if enough money is pledged would be to remodel the basement for more meeting space, landscaping around the building, and develop a pathway at Luther Crest from the gathering hall to the lake for worship for safety reasons. A building team will be formed to develop the scope of the project, get estimates, and develop a communication plan. The pathway at Luther Crest will be put on hold for now.

Defining & Clarifying Strategies-Kids & Student Ministry focus: Hans and Jana: The timeline and goals created by staff were reviewed.

Consent Agenda: Jana

Motion was made to approve the Consent agenda by Mark S. and seconded by Cheryl. The motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Bruce

Bruce reported that August was a better month financially. We are still 4% behind budget. Expenses are in line, but we are behind on worship income. Hans has talked to some lead donors to help with the shortage. Katie received \$15,000 in donations that will be reflected in the September financials. Ann made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Mark C. seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business: Katie R. The Partner Network conference will be on October 7. The council was encouraged to go out to the Calvary website to sign up.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Next meeting will be at Calvary on October 16, at 6 p.m.