



Calvary Council November 12, 2024

Members Present: Pastor Hans Dahl, Pastor Angie Larson, Katie Rentschler, Bruce Luehmann, Mark Christenson, Kathy Hungness, Brett Boyum, Mark Stromswold, Jeff Rodel and Cheryl Whitchurch

Absent: Ann Stehn and Deb Dittberner

The council meeting was called to order by Mark Christenson at 5:00 pm.

Mission Sightings:

- 1200 hotdogs cooked and served by Jeff Rodel at Trunk or Treat
- Trunk or Treat and all the volunteers
- High level of recent activity and engagement through Calvary
- Women's Brunch
- Leaders equipping new leaders

Opening Prayer: Pastor Hans led the group in opening prayer.

Leadership: Council Priorities for 2024

- Sustaining Ministry: Appeal
- Facility: Improvement Study
- Engagement: Dashboard
- Staff: Sabbatical & Next Gen Minister Hiring
- Lead Pastor Review

Sustaining Ministry: Appeal: Katie reported that we are now in our post public phase of the appeal. There is still a lot of movement as households continue to return their commitments. We have received just over \$2M in Make Room commitments so far. Make Room conversations and generosity continue.

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of October Meeting
- Staff Reports
- Fund Approvals

A motion to accept the consent agenda as presented, including the approval of \$500 from the Giving Tree fund to be used for the purchase of Visa gift cards to assist those in need, was made by Kathy and seconded by Brett. The motion was carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

October Financials: Bruce reported that we are still 1% above budget in income YTD and 3% below budget in expenses YTD. October general fund income was a little lower than budgeted and expenses a bit higher, both due in part with the timing of one-time gifts and expenses like the insurance increase. Bruce reported that we received nearly \$60,000 in Make Room Gifts in October and we have \$240,000 banked from the Appeal.

A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Brett and seconded by Kathy. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Synod Visit Review: The council had conversation following the NW MN Synod visit with Dr. Paul Dovre. Council was in agreement to continue financial support to the synod with the possibility of supporting more creatively with specific initiatives. Bruce, Mark, Katie, and Pastor Hans will continue discussion and will bring back recommendations at the next meeting.

New Business: Draft of 2025 Budget: Previous decision was made to change the fiscal year to July-June and to incrementally move towards budgeting for margin. Katie presented a first draft of the 2025 budget for January through June. A six month budget will be presented to the congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 2, 2025.

Top Three Takeaways:

- Strong financial position of the church this year
- Post public phase of the appeal and the way people continue generosity
- Moving into the restructuring of the July-June fiscal year

An executive session was held following the council business.

The meeting was adjourned @ 6:30 pm. Council attended the All Staff meeting.

The next council meeting will be held on **December 9 @ 6:00 p.m.**