



Calvary Council Minutes September 15, 2025

Members Present: Pastor Hans Dahl, Pastor Angie Larson, Katie Rentschler, Bruce Luehmann, Mark Christenson, Ann Stehn, Mark Stromswold, Brett Boyum, Whitney Anderson, Brian Baustian, and Cheryl Whitchurch

Absent: Jeff Rodel

The council meeting was called to order by Brett Boyum at 6:02 pm.

All In Moments:

- High School Food Shelf Collection & Backpack Attack
- All In Banners
- Nolan & Worship Team Gigs - @ Synod, Copper Trail, and Brophy Park
- Calvary volunteers at the Lake
- Largest attendance at first week back in the new fall season
- Celebration of Angie's 6 year anniversary at Calvary
- Calvary connected weddings intentionally centered on Christ and faith

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

Leadership:

Strategic Planning: Pastor Hans reviewed Calvary's North Star Objective and goal of **broadening engagement amongst all that call Calvary their church home**. Council members shared the observed positives around the "All In" theme and identified "All In" obstacles. The council members discussed Calvary's Target Market and had discussion around what God is inviting us to do in this geographical area.

In future council meetings, other staff members will be invited to council to share their strategic planning objectives and challenges for council input.

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of August meeting
- Staff Reports
- Fund Approvals

A motion to accept the consent agenda as presented was made by Ann and seconded by Mark C. The motion was carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

August Financials: Bruce reported that August giving was strong. There were many annual gifts given during August. Even without those annual gifts, general fund giving was 25% higher than last August. Two months into our new budget, we are moving in the right direction.

The preschool year has just begun. The preschool budget will balance out as the tuition income starts to come in.

Calvary's building account is between \$330,000-\$340,00, allowing for additional principal payments to be made in the future.

A motion to accept the treasurer's financial report was made by Brian and seconded by Whitney. The motion passed unanimously.

Employee Retention Credits: Katie shared that the final payment was received. Payments totaled \$253,603. The church received 75% of the funds and the preschool received 25%. Katie provided an update on the allocated capital expenses. Projects completed include Calvary at the Lake golf cart, preschool office heat/AC, acoustical tile for Lookout room, Calvary at the Lake concrete, and exterior signage. We are still shopping for Hub chairs. In addition \$130,000 was put into the General Fund reserve.

Treasurer Position: The treasurer position was discussed. With Bruce's anticipated retirement from the Calvary treasurer position, Jana Berndt has agreed to serve as Calvary's next treasurer. Bruce outlined a plan for the transition period in which he and Jana will work together for the next nine months to wrap up the current fiscal year.

A motion was made by Mark S. and seconded by Mark C. to approve Jana Berndt as church treasurer with a nine month transition time serving with Bruce. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Safety and Security: Pastor Hans and Katie outlined safety and security measures currently in place at Calvary. Council discussed the need to thoughtfully develop further safety and medical emergency policies and procedures.

A motion was made by Whitney and seconded by Mark S. to form a safety and security team of 4-6 members to review and create thoughtful safety and emergency policy and procedures that would be reported back to the council in 3 months. The motion passed unanimously.

Lead Pastor Review: Brett reported that the lead pastor review is due and outlined the review process. Council members received a lead pastor evaluation form to complete individually for discussion at the October council meeting. Pastor Hans will complete a self-evaluation. After October council discussion, the executive committee will meet with Pastor Hans for the lead pastor review.

Calvary Partner Network: Pastor Hans reported that we are awaiting news on the 2nd round of funding from the Lilly Endowment. The network will be renamed to **Re:Church**. The new name reflects more collaboration, reigniting, and reimagining with partners.

Old Business: None

Top Three Takeaways:

- Financial health and ongoing planning
- Steps with safety and security
- Kid and student programming
- Worship attendance
- We are All In

Pastor Hans closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

The next council meeting will be held on **October 20, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.**