



Approved Calvary Council Minutes June 16, 2025

Members Present: Pastor Hans Dahl, Katie Rentschler, Bruce Luehmann, Mark Christenson, Kathy Hungness, Ann Stehn, Brett Boyum, Mark Stromswold, Whitney Anderson, and Cheryl Whitchurch

Absent: Pastor Angie Larson, Jeff Rodel

The council meeting was called to order by Mark Christenson at 5:01 pm.

Mission Sightings:

- Calvary at the Lake off to a great start
- Strong attendance at both services on Father's Day
- Ghana team's fruitful trip
- Friends at Luther Crest - Staff blessing and partnership
- Tradition of VBS - kids staying connected as young adults

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

Leadership:

Strategic Planning with North Point Professionals

Following the regular council meeting, Calvary's Strategic Planning team will meet for the final session of strategic planning with Dan and Lisa Malmstrom. Staff reflections on where we've been, how we got where we are, and what's next will be shared. The team will discuss reflections to bring Calvary's vision into alignment.

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of May Meeting
- Staff Reports
- Fund Approvals

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

Treasurer's Report:

May Financials: Bruce reported that we are running 2% ahead of budgeted income year to date and we are 5% below in budgeted expenses. We are on target to hit our income budget for

the stub period, even though there will be three larger expenses in June including insurance, VBS, and Calvary at the Lake. Bruce also reported that our mortgage is now below \$3 M. Since the beginning of the year, \$246,000 has been paid on the mortgage principle. We currently have an eleven month mortgage reserve of \$205,000.

A motion to accept the treasurer's financial report was made by Brett and seconded by Mark S. The motion passed unanimously.

Insurance Deductible: Katie reported that our insurance provider, Church Mutual, added a 1% of property value deductible on wind/hail damage in our policy renewal. Our deductible for wind/hail damage jumped from \$5,000 to \$150,000. Council extends gratitude and appreciation to Donn Frahm, who led our insurance bid process last year, for his skillful and thoughtful negotiation with Church Mutual. Donn was able to secure a change to a flat rate of \$75,000 deductible instead of the 1% of property value deductible of \$150,000. Calvary intends to pursue a bid process again next year.

A motion was made by Kathy to accept the adjustment to our insurance policy renewal with a \$75,000 deductible for windstorm/hail losses. Whitney seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

New Business:

Annual Meeting Preparation: The annual meeting will be on July 30, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. The agenda for the meeting was reviewed with more detailed preparation to be completed at the July council meeting.

Partner Network: Pastor Hans reminded us that in 2020, Calvary was the recipient of a 5-year Lilly Endowment grant that allowed us the resources needed to develop the Calvary Partner Network. The grant is coming to completion at the end of 2025 and we have now been invited to apply for a second round of funding. The Lilly Endowment Scaling Grant would provide matching funds for the next five years with the intent of reaching a sustaining level at the grant's completion. Calvary's matching revenue of \$365,000 would come through Partner church fees, conference registrations, coaching, retreat leadership and consulting fees, as well as donations over the next 5 years. A matching grant of the same amount would give us a total 5 year budget of approximately \$730,000.

A motion was made by Brett to authorize Pastor Hans to apply for the matching Lilly Endowment Scaling Grant for a second round of Partner Network funding for the next 5 years. Motion was seconded by Cheryl. The motion was carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Capital Expenditures Update: Katie gave an update on the purchases made as a result of receiving Employee Retention Credits. The purchase of a 6-seater golf cart and the concrete around the stage have both been completed and both are a huge benefit at Calvary at the Lake.

The church and preschool exterior signage, soundproofing in the Lookout Room, preschool office HVAC, and Hub chairs are other projects currently in the works.

Approve 2025-2026 Budget: Bruce presented a final version of Calvary General Fund Budget for Capacity for 2025-2026. The budget was reviewed and discussed with the council.

A motion was made to accept the budget as presented by Mark S. and seconded by Whitney. The motion was carried unanimously. The budget will be brought to the congregation on July 30th for approval.

Top Three Takeaways:

- Strategic planning of priorities for Calvary's future
- Thoughtful budget planning for capacity
- Grant funding possibility for Partner Network sustainability

The meeting adjourned @ 6:13 pm to meet with North Point Professionals and the Strategic Planning Team.

The next council meeting will be held on **July 21, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.**

Strategic Planning with North Point Professionals: The Strategic Planning Meeting opened with prayer. Dan Malmstrom outlined the agenda, session objectives and outcomes. The purpose of the Calvary Planning Session #3 was to bring our vision for Calvary's future ministry into alignment.

Following the first two sessions of team strategic planning, Calvary staff met to reflect and process. Through the strategic planning sessions and staff reflection process, our "north star" objective of engagement was identified. In order to live out our mission of *leading all people to a lifelong faith in Jesus*, engagement of those who call Calvary their church home will be key. Staff identified seven internal engagement objectives for council and staff. Seven external engagement ministry priorities were identified. The team reviewed, discussed, and aligned themes, objectives, and engagement ministry areas. In the next steps, staff will process and develop clear objectives and key results. The objectives will inform the council's work for the next 18-24 months.