

HOLY SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 21, 2021, 5:30pm - Zoom

Mission Statement: Worshipping and growing together in Christ serving and reaching out joyfully to all.

Action Items:

1. Diane Klinkerfues will call Pastor-coach Will Johnson and the Synod office this week to seek updated information on our request for an Interim pastor.
2. Diane Klinkerfues will ask Pastor Michael about the 2019 Transition Summary.
3. Council vice president Melinda Powelson will talk to Pastor Michael about forming a nominating committee for council vacancies.
4. At the October council meeting, Council will designate one individual to present narrative budget information and review graphs during the annual meeting.
5. At the October council meeting, Council will decide where to place the money from the PPP loan which has been forgiven.

Present: Diane Klinkerfues, president; Melinda Powelson, vice president; Judy Ekberg, secretary; Scott Ikenberry, treasurer/financial chairperson; Chase Evenson, at large; David Irwin, at-large;
Absent: Pastor Michael, Karen Novess; Donna Madsen

Call to Order: 5:38pm

Opening Prayer: Diane Klinkerfues

Business:

1. Continuing Business

- A. Transition/Interim update: The Synod office has nothing new to report to Holy Shepherd regarding our request for an Interim pastor.

ACTION ITEM: Diane Klinkerfues will call the Synod office this week and call Pastor Will Johnson, our Pastor Coach from the Synod, to seek further information.

- B. Transition/Interim: Questions from the congregation about Transition:

- 1) Does the co-pastor model work?
- 2) Do we need two pastors?
- 3) Can we afford two pastors with declining attendance?
- 4) Is our Transition Summary from 2019 still accurate?

ACTION ITEM: Diane Klinkerfues will ask Pastor Michael about the 2019 Transition Summary.

2. New Business

- A. Council Positions to be filled for January 2022 : Openings include president (2-year term completed); secretary (2-year term completed), finance

chairperson/treasurer (term limited vacancy); personnel chairperson (position currently vacant). Job descriptions will be available soon.

- B. Vice President Melinda Powelson is the nominating committee chairperson.
ACTION ITEM: Vice President Melinda will talk to Pastor Michael about forming a nominating committee for council vacancies.
- C. Should we use the narrative budget again for the annual congregational meeting? Yes, Council agreed that the narrative budget with graphs will be included in the annual meeting. Adequate time during the annual meeting needs to be allotted to address the budget and graphs.
ACTION ITEM: Council will designate one individual to present the 2022 church budget information during the annual meeting.
- D. Pat Mohrbacher inquiry. Pat communicated to the council a number of questions and concerns she has heard from the congregation regarding our ongoing Transition process (Please see 1. Continuing Business B. Transition/Interim) as well as a request for monthly reports of council discussions and decisions.
*Council discussed options for conversations with council and the congregation members, including gathering immediately following Sunday worship and scheduling discussions during Adult Education.
*Minutes from each month's council meeting are available in the church office.
*A summary from each month's council meeting is included in the Shepherd's Staff which is sent via email each month.

3. Finance Report

- A. August 2021 giving was (\$14,000) below our new 2021 Budget, but almost identical to our giving in August 2020. YTD giving through August 2021 is \$1,000 higher than our YTD 2020 giving through August 2020, but (\$36,800) under the increased 2021 Budget.

August 2021 expenses were \$8,600 under our new 2021 Budget and were \$3,400 higher than our August 2020 expenses. YTD expenses are approx. \$34,500 under the 2021 Budget.

Bottom Line: August 2021 net loss of approx. (\$5,400) as compared to August 2020 loss of (\$1,400). YTD 2021 net loss of (\$2,200) vs. YTD 2020 income of \$28,400.

Quick comments on the Balance Sheet:

1. Contributions to the Building Fund were \$4,000 in August and are \$34,700 YTD 2021. Contributions through August 2020 were \$56,400. Cash balance in the Building Fund Account at 8/31/21 is approx. \$42,000. Additional funds from split checks were transferred from the General Fund in August.

2. Solar Loan balance at 8/31/21 was \$83,766. This included an extra principal payment of \$2,465 from special contributions. After the August 2021 loan payment, the loan balance is now \$82,500. We continue to receive contributions for early principal paydown on this loan and have applied an extra \$8,665 through 8/31/21.

3. We need to discuss how to handle the \$58,000 PPP Loan which has now been forgiven. It is still reflected on our Balance Sheet as a Liability. Options include moving the money to a capital reserve fund. **ACTION ITEM:** At the October council meeting, council will decide where to place the amount from the PPP loan.

4. Staff Report

- a. Pastors Report - Pastor Michael is attending the annual Theological Conference for rostered leaders of the Rocky Mountain Synod. He has been busy with an increasing number of pastoral care sessions and he wants the congregation to know that caring for the congregation in this way is of highest importance to him.
Adult education will begin in a couple of weeks with in-person classes at HSLC only, with no online option at this time. We are working on technicalities to offer online participation.
A special thanks goes out to Donna and Karen! Because of them, the work that happens through the office continues at the highest of quality, efficiency and faithfulness to the mission of HSLC!
- b. [Ministry Report](#)
Preparing worship tools (bulletins, screens, Live Stream) for in-person worship; planning worship through November; adding volunteers at worship; choirs have started rehearsals.
Faith Formation planning with three families who are not ready for in-person education on Sunday mornings; planning monthly family activities of fellowship, education and service work.
Beginning planning for the national youth gathering in Minnesota in July 2022.

5. **Closing Prayer:** Council members closed the meeting praying the Lord's Prayer in unison.

Adjournment: 6:48pm

Next Meeting: October 19, 2021

Approval of September Minutes: September 24, 2021

Respectfully submitted, Judy Ekberg, Secretary

