

HOLY SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 8, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

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

Vision Statement: As disciples of Jesus, Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church believes we are called to be in relationship with God, with God's people and with God's world everyday.

Present: Lisa Grimm, president; Diane Jowell, vice president; Judy Ekberg, secretary; Scott Ikenberry, treasurer; Melinda Powelson, personnel chair; Susan Linner, At large; Taz Walkowich, At Large; Pastor Julie Brooks; Pastor Kim Gonia.

Call to Order: 6:03pm

Opening Devotion/Prayer: Scott Ikenberry gave the devotion referring to several Bible verses that address money and our relationship with God. No one can serve two masters; only God should have power over our lives, not money. We can find satisfaction only in God, not in money. We look forward to creative ways that God will provide for Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Book Discussion: Chapter 4 "Comparing the Two Systems" in the book *Kicking Habits* by Thomas G. Bandy. In this chapter the author compares the Declining Church, one that is focused on committees and never changing, with the Thriving Church, focused on developing spiritual gifts and impacting the world. We disagreed with many of the author's statements. We can impact the world without frenetic energy!

Reports:

Pastor Julie reviewed the communication survey summary that she presented during the Adult Education class. We had good feedback from the congregation with 78 surveys returned. Currently, weekly email, phone messages and mailings are popular ways of being apprised of information and events, rather than the website and Facebook page. We don't know how effective the latter two methods may be for the general public.

The following new members will be welcomed on August 20:

Bonnie and Dick Brundige
Reid (Marie) Clark
Mary Ann Evancheck
Jim Gonia
Pam and Dean Klenz
Kathy and Dave Quintana
Jeanette and Tom Teske

Pastor Kim has been engaging one-on-one with members of the Missions Team, laying a foundation for her to work with that group as well as lead the congregation in reaching out in God's world. She is involved in planning for God's Work Our Hands Sunday on September 10. She is also helping plan The Gathering which will be starting on a monthly basis on September 10.

Finance Report:

*Giving through July 2023 was (\$44,200) under our 2023 budget, but \$13,100 over our giving through July 2022.

* Expenses through July 2023 were (\$23,000) under our 2023 budget and (\$13,000) under our expenses through July 2022.

* Bottom Line: Our actual loss through July 2023 of approximately (\$21,200) was \$26,100 less than our loss of approximately (\$43,300) through July 2022.

Continuing Business:

*The Communication Committee has followed through on Council's goal to "write a communication plan by June 30, 2023."

* Safety and Security Team: The church has 23 cameras for security; two AED units, one located in the narthex and one downstairs with Family Promise; Narcan located in the narthex and downstairs with Family Promise. The Safety and Security team sees a need for training for the AED, Narcan, CPR, fire evacuation, and encountering an intruder. Council affirms the Safety and Security Team's autonomy to schedule trainings.

New Business:

* Holy Shepherd is searching for candidates to fill the Sound Technician position.

* Church Council positions of President and Secretary will be vacant in January 2024. Council will be looking for candidates to fill a two-year term for each position.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Kim Gonia

Adjournment: 8:03 pm

Next Meeting: September 12, 2023 at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Approval of minutes: August 12, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Ekberg, Secretary