

**HOLY SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
*September 12, 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; Melinda Powelson, Personnel; Judy Ekberg, secretary; Susan Linner, At large member; Taz Walkowich, At large member; Pastor Julie Brooks; Pastor Kim Gonia. Absent: Scott Ikenberry

**Call to Order:** 6:05 pm

**Opening Devotion/Prayer:** Melinda presented the poem "For Solitude" written by John O'Donohue.

**Book Discussion:**

We discussed Chapter 5 "The Declining Church Organization" from the book Kicking Habits written by Thomas G. Bandy. The organizational model features central control, consensus decision making, and unity through agreement; the model assumes, and builds, homogeneity.

**Reports:**

Pastor Julie has met with the Vision and Planning team which will be determining ways and areas in which to strengthen and innovate our church experience. Next week, Pastor Julie will be attending the Theological Conference which is held yearly in the Rocky Mountain Synod.

Pastor Kim has been meeting with various congregation members, focusing the conversations on spiritual life. She has met with the Mission Team. She has met with Bonnie Yockstick and Pat Morhbacher and together they are launching "Children's Church" on September 24. Pastor Kim will also attend the Rocky Mountain Synod Theological Conference.

**Continuing Business:**

1. Communication plan follow-up: Developing a plan for after-hours emergency contact with pastors; Pastors will receive notification more quickly if a voice message is left on their personal extension through the church office phone number 303.233.2740
2. Stewardship: Temple Talks will be presented in October/November
3. Council vacancies need to be filled by January, 2024: president, secretary.

**New Business:**

1. Budget for 2024 is being prepared.
2. Annual report: format is being considered

**Closing Prayer:** Pastor Julie

**Adjournment:** 8:10pm

**Next Meeting:** October 10, 2023 @ 6:00pm

**Impact Statement:** [How does this council's discussion impact our part of the world? ]

Council's discussion of ideas for innovation, faith formation, budget, stewardship, mission, and emergency contact for pastors all are important to our congregation being able to worship, grow together and to serve.

**Approval of minutes:**

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Ekberg, Secretary