

**HOLY SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

June 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Administration Building

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

Vision Statement: Trusting God + Loving the World

Decisions Made:

- Invite Trust Committee to meetings with the Council on a quarterly basis and reciprocate with Council members attending Trust Committee meetings to enable the two groups to keep in touch and share the good things that each group is doing.
- Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church will join the ELCA Welcoming Congregations Network of AMMPARO.
- Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church will use money from the Scholarship Fund to pay for five children to attend the two week Summer Arts Camp in July that is produced by Arvada United Methodist Church.

Present: Pastor Kim Gonia; Taz Walkovich; Susan Linner; Scott Ikenberry; Melinda Powelson; and Kathleen Clark

Call to Order: 6:01 p.m.

Opening Devotion/Prayer: Melinda Powelson

Book Discussion: Pastor Kim Gonia will lead the discussion of Chapter 1, “Why Lydia Doesn’t Go to Your Church” in the book, *Leading Faithful Innovation*.

REPORTS

Treasurer Report:

- Giving through May, 2024 was \$69,100 under our 2024 Budget and \$15,600 under our giving through May, 2023.
- We still have \$60,000 in excess of our Liabilities and Reserve requirements as of May 31, 2024
- We still owe approximately \$19,000 to Mediavine for the 25% balances due on the two phases of the newly completed Sound System project.

Pastor Kim

Pastor Julie

Continuing Business

- Generosity Team
 - The Generosity Team met with the Trust Team to discuss the possibility of asking Trust for a one time gift from the perpetual fund to help offset the current short-fall in the budget funds. This may be approached again in September. The Trust Team will be approached to help pay for the sound system.
- Opportunities Fair

- The Opportunities Fair was determined to be an outstanding success. Members of the congregation are encouraged to complete the survey that was sent with the Friday, June 7th email, so that we can receive more online responses about the fair. The drawing was a great success. For next year though, the council discussed that a different time of the year might be helpful since the first part of June is a time of graduations and other occasions to celebrate the end of the school year.
- New sound system installation
 - There is currently a WiFi issue that is impacting the bluetooth software that will link the sound system to people who are using bluetooth hearing aids.
 - The overall response from the council members with input from church members is that the new cameras, software, and sound system has greatly improved the quality of the sound and video in the sanctuary.
- English Language classes
 - Expand program to include larger community
 - More volunteers would be needed to expand the program, perhaps starting in September to the greater community.
 - A request to the Trust Fund could help to pay for paper, supplies, and other materials for the classes.
 - Lunch was served last week which was beneficial to all participants since the class usually lasts from 11:45 to around 1:30 p.m.
- Communications
 - Newsletter
 - The newsletter is in the planning/development stages.
 - Webpage, Facebook, and marquee
 - The goal is to get the webpage more operational and updated first, followed by Facebook. Members of the Communications teams are researching different information, styles, etc. of the websites of other churches to develop to provide ideas for the church website.
 - A new Facebook page that is linked to the Holy Shepherd email needs to be developed.
 - Church t-shirts/sweatshirts
 - Kathleen Clark and Melinda Powelson will work with Diane Klinkerfues to research and develop a plan to create the logo, prices, and other applicable details to market Holy Shepherd t-shirts, sweatshirts or hoodies, and caps.
- Council Teams check in on goals: Administrative, divided into Communication and Finance, Training (Human Resources)
- Meeting with all of the different organizations in the church
 - The purpose of this meeting is to gather information and coordinate with all of the different organizations in the church to share calendars (events, academic calendar, etc.); possibly create a master calendar that captures all of the events; and to create an awareness of the goals and work of each group.

New Business:

- ELCA Welcoming Congregations Network of AMMPARO, Welcoming Statement - Tom Teske
 - Melinda Powelson moved that Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church should become an ELCA Welcoming Congregation. Scott Ikenberry seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Currently, there are only three other churches in Colorado that are ELCA Welcoming Congregations.

- Inviting the Trust Committee to report to Council quarterly
 - The council agreed that it would be helpful to invite Trust Committee members to attend council meetings on a quarterly basis and for council members to attend Trust Committee meetings on a quarterly basis as well.
- Scholarships for Summer Arts Camp for Kellas and Whitney Navarro
 - The Kella girls and Whitney Navarro have applied for and been accepted into a two-week Summer Arts Camp that is sponsored by Arvada United Methodist Church. The dates of the camp are July 8th - July 19th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. They will sing, dance, act, create stage props and the background for the play, *Stone Soup*.
 - There will be performances at 7 p.m. on July 19th and 20, with a 3 p.m. performance on Sunday, July 21st. Information about the performances will be presented in Happenings, so the Holy Shepherd community can be invited to come support and celebrate the free performances of these very special people in the church. Free will donations are accepted to help with Arvada United Methodist Church's Food Ministries.
 - The cost of the camp for each student is \$50 non-refundable registration fee and \$250 for the cost of the camp which includes lunches and snacks.
 - The total cost for all 5 students is \$1,500.
 - Melinda Powelson moved that the Holy Shepherd Scholarship fund be used to sponsor all five students. Susan Linner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Reaching into the community
 - The Immigration team met for the first time and has scheduled a second meeting in June. At the Opportunities fair, eight more people expressed an interest in being part of the team.
- An Especially Special Friday
 - This special event was originally scheduled for Friday, July 12th, but it will need to be rescheduled because this date conflicts with the Summer Arts Camp.

Closing Prayer:

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 9th at 6:00 p.m. Susan Linner will provide the opening devotion/prayer.

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

Approval of minutes: June 20, 2024

Submitted by: Kathleen Clark

COUNCIL CORNER:

The Council is reading and studying a book, *Leading Faithful Innovation* and discussing and praying about the information in the book to discern and follow God's will and leadership for Holy Shepherd. The church is focusing on strengthening our communication within the church and with our community by improving the church website and Facebook page.

The Council is so grateful for all of the groups who participated and presented at the Opportunities Fair! We are also asking people to complete the survey (attached in the Friday church email) to provide feedback about the Opportunities Fair.

Giving through May, 2024 was \$69,100 under our 2024 Budget and \$15,600 under our giving through May, 2023. Our actual loss through May, 2024 of approximately \$61,500 was \$41,100 more than our loss of approximately \$20,400 through May, 2023.

The Council approved that Holy Shepherd will become an ELCA Welcoming Congregation of AMMPARO (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation, and Opportunities). The first meeting of the Immigration Team has occurred and another meeting is scheduled in June.

The Council approved the use of \$1,500 from the Scholarship Fund to pay for Catherine, Choe, Melicia, and Aaliyah Kella and Whitney Navarro to attend a two-week Summer Arts Camp at Arvada United Methodist Church.