

**HOLY SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

November 12, 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: To continue the Bee Hive Ministry indefinitely and to begin the process of amending the constitution to allow the pastors to vote at the Council meetings.

Present: Kathleen Clark, President; Michael Boehm, Vice President (via Zoom); Tom Teske, Secretary; Scott Ikeberry, Treasurer; Melinda Powelson, Personnel; Susan Linner, At Large Member; Tazz Walkowich At Large Member; Pastor Julie Brooks.

Call to Order: 6:06

Opening Devotion/Prayer: Pastor Julie Brooks led thoughts on the call of Isaiah and its meaning for our lives of serving, followed by a prayer for strength and understanding.

Book Discussion: Pastor Julie led the discussion of Chapter 6, "Faithful Innovation as a Leading" in the book *Leading Faithful Innovation*. Much of the discussion centered around the role of the pastor in regard to innovation in the church.

REPORTS

Treasurer Report: Giving fluctuates from month to month, and October wasn't as positive as September. Some of the difference comes from interest from the recent large gift. The expectation is that giving will improve during the last two months of the year, hoping that the shortfall will change from the current approximately \$80,000 to somewhere near \$50,000. His report is attached.

Pastor Kim: No report.

Pastor Julie: Report is attached.

Continuing Business

- The Generosity Team should probably meet in early December.
- Ruth Huebner Gift
 - \$9,000 was needed to cover sewage repairs, which came from this fund.
 - The Property Committee has a wish list. There was no report on what is included.
 - There will be ongoing discussions about the best way and how to use the money.
- Immigration Team: Managing trust funds for immigrant families. An adult forum on January 12th will be led by Chad from Lutheran Family Services on the topic of possibly co-sponsoring a refugee family with LFS.
- Fellowship:
 - An application for trust funds will be made on behalf of Fellowship for payment to a set-up/clean-up crew. It was felt that the primary problem with the fellowship hour was the cleanup. It is anticipated that it might be possible to pay for this service for 2 hours at \$25.00 per hour. If the funds are approved, it might be possible to invite Joe Navarro to do this and for us to donate gift cards for him from the grant.

- The communications team will meet soon.
- A motion was made, seconded and passed that the Bee Hive project continue indefinitely.
- ESL Classes will be offered November 17th through December 22nd (12:00 to 1:30 p.m.). This is through a grant from the public library, and Chromebooks will be provided for all class members and donated to them if they complete all six classes. We may need to apply for a grant to supply lunches, and children will need activities since they are not able to attend these classes. We also discussed the possibility of hosting multiple classes at Holy Shepherd.
- From the Social Activities Committee: The lunch which was held today at Jaime's Restaurant was attended by 34 folks. A Christmas party is being planned, along with possible Christmas caroling for people who can't come to church. A January International Fair is also being planned.
- A notice regarding available transportation assistance will be placed in the Happenings.
- A February Retreat for the council was scheduled for February 22nd from 9 to 1 at the church, which will replace the regular February council meeting.

New Business:

- The Membership Roster is currently being updated.
- An amendment to the Constitution (C12.01) was suggested, allowing the pastors to hold voting membership on the council unless the votes related to them. A motion was made, seconded and passed to begin the amending process. The amended article might look like this:
- C12.01. The voting membership of the Congregation Council shall consist of the pastor(s), the deacon(s), the officers of this congregation, the Personnel Team chair, and two at-large members. ~~The Rostered Minister(s) shall be (an) advisory member(s).~~ Any voting member of this congregation may be elected, subject only to the limitation on the length of continuous service permitted in that office. A member's place on the Congregation Council shall be declared vacant if the member a) ceases to be a voting member of this congregation or b) is absent from two successive regular meetings of the Congregation Council without cause.
- Discussion is ongoing regarding removing the synod payment from the Missions Team, placing this responsibility under the Council.

Closing Prayer: Individual prayers were offered by council members.

Adjournment: 8:00 PM

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 10th, 6:00 PM

Impact Statement: The Bee Hive Ministry and the ESL classes are significant community activities.

Approval of minutes:

COUNCIL CORNER: At its November 12th meeting, your Church Council discussed Chapter 6, "Faithful Innovation as a Leading" in the book *Leading Faithful Innovation*. The treasurer reported that contributions were down in October. The expectation is that giving will improve during the last two months of the year, hoping that the shortfall will change from the current approximately \$80,000 to somewhere near \$50,000. The property committee is working on a list of potential projects for the use of some of the Ruth Huebner gift. An adult forum on January 12th will be led by Chad from Lutheran Family Services on the topic of possibly co-sponsoring a refugee family with LFS. The Council also discussed the fellowship hour (primarily the clean-up concern) and a report from the Social Activities Committee (including a potential holiday activity and a possible International Fair in January). Motions were passed to continue the Bee Hive Ministry indefinitely and to begin the process of amending the constitution to allow the pastors to vote at the Council meetings.

–Tom Teske, Secretary