



**Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Council  
Meeting of February 25, 2019**

**Devotion by Marty Hagberg.** What is God doing? With church attendance declining, how is the Holy Spirit reshaping the church? People of God gather together. Through Baptism and Communion, God's mercy and strength sustains and restores us. Music, a gift from God, is another way to experience God's restoration. We are transformed through Christ. God is acting to send us out!

**Attendees:** Pastor Fritz Wiese, Pastor Miriam Beecher, Don Livingston, Bernice Huie, Holly Monahan, Kevin Hawkins, Marty Hagberg, Dewey Patrick, Molly Breckling, Eric Jakubowski, Robbi Martin, Michael Oliver

**Absent:** Andrea Williams

**Guest:** Gary Thompson, chairman Facilities Management Team

**January Minutes** were circulated via email on February 3, 2019. The approval quorum was met on February 4, 2019.

**Questions from Council on Financial Documents by Kevin Hawkins:** Eric asked if deficit budgets have always worked out and how Kevin handles them. Kevin said 95% of the budget is usually spent. He said that typically you'd like to be further ahead at this time.

**Pastor Fritz Update:** See attachment.

Pastor Fritz has one interview for the Director of Connecting Ministry scheduled for next week.

**Discussion:** The Musician position is still open. A question was asked if this person would have a contract or would be an employee of the church. Pastor Fritz explained that if they are here every week, they would be considered an employee. Nametag use by Council members has been requested. Robbi asked who issues nametags. Eric asked who is responsible for the Church Life app on the COS website. Linda Volckmann, COS office administrator, is responsible for both. Twenty-four students from Wittenberg University will be visiting soon. Lutheran Services of Georgia sent information about a group interested in Palmetto Road.

**Pastor Miriam Update:** The Apple tree society has added first names. Fifteen people attended the recent 'Punk the Pastor' day. Mosaics, formerly known as the Go-Getters, met Sunday 24; there was a good response. People also came together for prayer and music at the February Hope service. Karl Dietmeyer led this very moving and meaningful service. Pastor Miriam said the church has seen a rise in the need to hold gatherings after a death; these can turn into funerals for people without church homes. Over 300 people gathered at COS recently for a young woman, 30 years old, with no church home. There has been a lot of illness in the church lately.

**Foundry.** Pastor Miriam led the discussion of The Foundry. Intense discussion last year led to their first school year here. What the Foundry thought they needed at COS has not been enough. A lot of wear and tear on the church has happened; they will double their number of students next year.

**Discussion:** Don asked if it is still good that the Foundry is here, do we like them and what they are doing? Are they abiding by the adult to student ratio? What about the physical wear and tear on building and equipment? Should we increase their usage fee? What is the cost of additional cleaning service hours and supplies? What would the impact be of the school occupying more classrooms? Mike asked if we could help them find another space. Gary said he will find out the numbers on the amounts of material they use and the dollar amount of damage that has occurred. Pastor Fritz asks that Council provide Foundry oversight for next year. Pastor Miriam has been the point person this year. More hours than originally anticipated have been devoted to this.

**Input:** The Foundry must provide more staff to bring them up to an acceptable number of adults to student ratio. The Foundry must pay more for services provided. They must provide their own Internet provider.

**Process Checkup by Don Livingston.** Action plans have been reviewed and discussed. Robbi discussed the startup of her group. Mike said his group was OK. Eric said they were ok for the next month. He will contact Scott Bosecker to discuss how the Apple Tree Society could interact with Stewardship. Dewey and Kevin are OK. Molly and Pastor Miriam will meet to discuss how to help her group. Holly and FMT are OK. The Action Plan Feedback with blue comments was discussed. Pastor Fritz and Pastor Miriam also discussed feedback and how to prioritize for the budget. Molly asked for other comments from each other and to each other.

**Budget 2020 upcoming.** Are there things that we need to submit for next year's budget? Kevin said that Bob Davis is pulling numbers from the budget and that they will meet in March to go over preliminary numbers. Kevin will have the proposed budget for March and will have the final budget for the congregation in April.

**Old Business. Don Livingston.** Becoming the Fiscal Agent for The Atlanta Bar Church was discussed but no decision was made. A decision will be made between now and March. Finance had been asked to look at it. Sue Kunig and Bob Davis went to Lutheran Church of the Redeemer for more information. After additional information is received, Council will vote.

#### **New Business:**

**Feedback on Keypad/Security.** Sue Kunig will schedule meetings in March. Staff has made several suggestions.

**Computer Replacement.** There is a critical need to replace all computers. Sue Kunig was given full support for the purchase from the Finance Committee at their Retreat on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Money has been reallocated from staff designated funds. Additional funding of \$4381.99 is needed.

**Discussion:** Kevin discussed that the additional funding was not a budgeted item. Mike and Dewey asked if payment for this additional money could be postponed.

- **Motion:** The Director of Operations is authorized to purchase replacement computers with funds coming from designated existing funds and is authorized to exceed the existing budget with an additional \$4381.99. The motion was made by Bernice and seconded by Marty. The motion was approved 9 to 1.

**Input on Security & Palmetto by Gary Thompson, FMT chair.** Gary presented the need for security at Palmetto Road. Vandalism, stealing, and unauthorized access continues. Fishing rods were found by the lake recently. An adjoining neighbor has had illegal entry onto her property by people on ATV's traveling onto our property.

FMT has installed several game cameras for monitoring temporarily but these cameras are not recognized by law enforcement as accurate and are not allowed in court proceedings.

FMT committee requests the following:

1. \$6800 for cameras with WIFI functions
2. \$3000 for a property survey with GPS (7 bids have been received)
3. \$2500-3500 for fencing

\$13,300 -total amount

There will be a \$15.00 a month charge for a data link. This allows 12 email or phone numbers to receive alerts. \$75 a month for security monitoring is an option.

**Discussion.** Can CTA funds be used to fund this?

**Closing Prayer:** The Lord's Prayer

**Next meeting agenda items:** Palmetto Road Security

**(Next Council Meeting – March 25, 2019)**

**Offering Count Schedule**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>COUNT SUPERVISOR</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>COUNT SUPERVISOR</b>
March 3	Williams	April 7	Breckling
March 10	Monahan	April 14	Huie
March 17	Patrick	April 21	<b>**Easter**</b>
March 24	Williams	April 28	Jakubowski

*\*\*The Easter Offering, collected on Sunday, Apr 21, will be counted on the following day, Monday, Apr 22 by volunteer Counters and Count Supervisor.*