

# Meeting Minutes Christ Our Shepherd

May 23, 2022



## Attendees

Rick Burnett

Pastor Fritz Wiese

Pastor Miriam Beecher

Scott E. Bosecker

Sue Byers

Carol Jensen-Linton

Lisa Manthey

Patrick Bauer

Mark Bunker

Brad Harris

Shelly Jones

Stephen Gundersen (scribe for 5/23/22)

## Devotional (Brad)

- Flying across the ocean, 3 pilots, brilliant stars but sometimes pitch black
  - Completely alone with one another pilot in cockpit
  - No Stars Visible When U2 Came On,
    - Highest mountain
    - Looking through the fields
    - Looking for you
    - Scaling city walls
- Gospel According to U2, *I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For*
  - Reflecting about age and incompleteness
  - Missing element a deeper relationship with God, example of cousin falling into rock bottom where even if mom feels like giving up God never does
  - God carries us away from the darkness into horizon where there is light
  - Romans the law convicts us of sin but only Jesus provides hope, light brings us back

## Pastors Reports

Highlights of Pastor Fritz report was a focused on our upcoming “Homecoming Service” and how all churches are struggling with getting their congregation to re-engage after the pandemic. Example being Willow Creek in Chicago, well attended but down 57 percent, many other congregations are down around 50-60 percent.

We’ve created 5 video clips to engage our congregation and our friends to come back!!

Have you ever left anyone behind? Mary and Joseph left Jesus behind. When we don’t see friends, becomes less likely to have future relationships. **Every staff member is reaching out to 5 members they have not seen. Encourage Council to do the same as Pentecost is June 5**

He also discussed the Sanctuary Renewal Project and the fact that it has not yet been officially shared with the congregation; 5/22 sermon provided an introduction to which we received upbeat feedback:

- Original carpet color in the sanctuary was actually picked to hide GA clay
- New lights, a freshly painted ceiling will provide a taste of the project
- Remain flexible is at this point the call of the day as we wait for the drawing renditions that will be provided by Portela & Associates, costs associated with some of the options available to us and a congregational decision related to what we can afford via the Vogt gift plus potentially a fund raiser

He also wanted to discuss Youth Summer Internship (3) Will Be Announced in Constant Contact

- Audio- one position up to 40 hours per month (potentially Liam Ravita)
- Children- two positions up to 30 hours per month each (potentially Sidney Waton, Livy Zimmerman)
- Win-Win: gain experience
- **Motion Approved for One Time Staffing for these 3 summer positions (<\$2k)**

Miriam- Great pictures, kids on Friday with preschool recognition, Lion King song,

- Really cute Youth Ministry pictures
- Worship pictures
  - Mother’s Day- great experience
- Administration pictures
  - Team Cleaning Kitchen, get ready for summer lunch program
- VBS- Starts next week
- She participated in a number of document management discussions as her long history with COS is important to clarifying why we have maintained so much “stuff”
- She participated in Disaster/Emergency Planning discussions- Be prepared, lessons learned from pandemic

- Nursery, Discussed with Fritz, Ingrid and David. We want to reopen the nursery and we need staff in order to do this
- Scheduling – so much going on
  - Graduation Recognition
  - church used very much in May
  - difficult to schedule important events such as funerals or piano recitals

Previous meeting minutes approved (April 2022)

Questions from Council on YTD Finances (Mark)

- See attached Excel Spreadsheet for monthly financial status

Final Discussion of FY 2022-23 Budget and Approval to take to Congregational Meeting for Their Approval (Mark)

- No changes on expense section as presented during last month's discussion, clarification \$15k from maintenance designated funds in case HVAC fails
- No staffing changes from last month's discussion, show hours not dollars when presenting to Congregation
- Clarification that \$32k will be taken from Investments to cover some of our anticipated income needs. That this money would come from the \$700k of cash/investments less the Restricted and Reserve total amount of \$549k as our total unrealized market gains available
- Mark discussed and Council agreed that we should look to spend as appropriate out of Restricted & Reserve Accounts whenever possible
- Final page of presentation was the proposed projects for this FY 22-23 and where the money is coming from. Some of the highlights of that conversation:
  - Painting needs to be spent out of this year's operations budget as the money cannot be carried over
  - Sanctuary renewal project expenses for the most part will come from the Vogt gift that sits in the R&R Account for Worship and Music
  - Grass Cutting will be moved to operations budget
  - Floating dock will be evaluated
- Council approved FY23 budget as discussed and voted to take to the Congregation for their approval

## Other Administrative Topics Discussed

- Update on Personnel Vacancies
  - Methodology Personnel Committee is using to fill the Minister of Music position was discussed, i.e., working diligently to develop a job description, identifying where our search is going to take us (seminaries, ELCA, synod, applicable job search websites)
  - Develop competitive compensation package
  - A Transition Plan of approximately 3 months is being planned for
- Security system for 101 Peachtree is still not working and solution is needed. Pastors will discuss with staff to come up with both short- and long-term solutions
- ACS Technology is going to be upgraded
- Insurance- increase \$3-5K
- It was noted that the Finance Committee Approved an update to our Finance Governance as follows:
  - Try to use 10 percent of each Restricted & Reserve account each FY
  - With a few exempt such as a) Columbarium b) Continuing Education Fund c) Call to Action
  - Gifts for all Designated Gifts over \$1000, 5% of that gift will be deposited to the General Fund

## Upcoming Congressional Meeting June 12

Two information sessions on June 5 and 8, Scott and Mark will lead

## Ongoing activities

- Update Emergency Plans, a new section addressing pandemic and update existing fire section
- Document Management -Lisa, Rick, and others to identify what's in the storage room

## Closed meeting with Lord's Prayer