

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Council
Minutes for August 22, 2022

Rick Burnett opened the meeting at 6:30 PM. Those present were Shelly Jones, Lisa Manthey, Scott Bosecker, Rick Burnett, Mark Bunker, Steve Gunderson, Pastor Fritz Wiese, Pastor Miriam Beecher, and by Zoom – Patrick Bauer and Carol Jensen-Linton.

Devotion – Steve based his devotion on Proverbs 3:27 and scripture from John and Ecclesiastes. His message was if you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done.

Opening Comments – Rick reported that we are looking for a new wealth management company instead of Wells Fargo.

Pastor Fritz Report – At the National Gathering, the new Vice President is Imran Siddiqui, a lay member from St. John's in Atlanta. There is a study going on to look at how we "do church". God's Work, Our Hands has numerous activities planned for next month. Pastor Fritz will be gone later this week for an uncle's funeral. He will be gone over the Labor Day weekend for a wedding he is performing. He reminded council that he and Pastor Miriam each get 5 weeks of vacation (including Sundays) and 2 weeks of continuing education each year.

Pastor Miriam's Report – During the God's Work, Our Hands, there will be a "Just Take" and not "Give" as we have been trying to clean out unused and unneeded items. The church needs more music space. Our Pre-school needs another teacher. A Contemporary Worship assistant has been hired.

YTD Finances and other Financial Matters – Mark reported that more people are giving and things are looking better financially.

▪ There are 2 new CERs:

- 1) Sanctuary Improvements totaling \$11,000 – Laptop (Mac) \$4300, Cameras (wiring and remote control in Sanctuary) with \$6800 coming from Worship & Music, and the other from Reserve Funds.
- 2) Replace new HVAC in kitchen costing \$8700

▪ Searching for new Wealth Manager at COS

Chip Beard is assisting with this. They met with 3 individuals. They were not impressed with Wachovia or Arbor Brook. They were impressed with Bryan Seay with Capital Steward. They will ask for him to create a plan for us. The money would be invested through Schwab, he would just give us advice as how to invest it.

Personnel Committee Updates – Laura Hawkins has added a "Job Opportunities" tab to our website. There will be a Youth Career Fair in late September.

▪ For the record, Council approved to hire Kate Hendrix as our new Nursery Coordinator via a separate online vote, 11-0. (One council member did not vote.) We need volunteers to help out so we have at least 2 adults in the nursery at a time. Ingrid Hudson will help recruit volunteers.

▪ Update on Director of Youth and Family Ministries – Committee looked at compensation packages of new hires. We will need to increase what we have budgeted for this. (Check handouts for more information.) Pastor Miriam is heading this up.

▪ Update on Minister of Worship and Music – Have not found anyone yet. Not many people are studying the organ any longer. May need to increase what we have budgeted for this. Karl Dietmeyer is heading up this group.

Update on Sanctuary Improvement Project – It's time to do a sanctuary renewal. Why?

From the PowerPoint presentation:

- 1) We are growing spiritually and worship space needs to reflect that.
- 2) Hired the Portelo's to create a design for us. They initially got input from the Team of 20.
- 3) The Team of 5 (Pastors, David Beecher, Karl Dietmeyer, Brad Milburn) is currently working directly with Alberto to refine the plan.
- 4) Flooring – looking at Plan A (pews and chairs) and Plan B (all chairs).
- 5) Font – we want something substantial but moveable. Easy to maintain.
- 6) David Beecher and Karl Dietmeyer are working on the music area.
- 7) Rethinking what we want for chancel furniture. No railings, other areas for kneeling could be available like in the pews or chairs.
- 8) Lower Chancel will be rounded and the upper chancel area will be squared off instead of current multi-side.
- 9) Discussion about area above chancel – inexpensive option for now, energizing (and possibly more expensive for later).

Several questions were raised – what is the price tag and will there need to be fundraising?

Rick has agreed to be project coordinator for this project.

With David retiring, who will take the lead on this project?

Pastor Fritz was asked to have this PowerPoint available to Council.

Update on Employee Retention Tax Credit – The Finance Committee is looking at this.

Administrative items

- July Minutes – It was moved by Scott and seconded by Steve to accept the minutes. Motion carried.
- Approve Health Insurance Package for 2022-2023 – This is the Gold Plus Plan that has been use in the past and it is already budgeted for next year.
- All 26 Audit deficiencies have all been addressed thanks to Steve/Mark, Linda/Staff, and Council.
- Document Management & Record Retention has picked up steam in July/August – all of the architectural drawings were found along with financial records.
- Reminder that Council VP leads the effort to recruit new members for next year's COS Church Council. Please help Scott with this effort as a Council members helped Sue last year and Rick the year before.
- On-line Giving Forms in conjunction with move from ACS to Realm – updated with Realm. Cleanup dropdown menu in area to give.
- December Council Meeting will be December 19 (due to Christmas).

Open discussion Committee/Team Update

Look over Emergency Plan Documents. Be prepared to discuss at next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM with the Lord's Prayer.