

## **Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Council Minutes for December 19, 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, Patrick Bauer, Kevin Hawkins and Carol Jensen-Linton.

**Devotion** – Lisa, Sue and Rick shared their reflections on being on Council the last 3 years. Pastor Miriam gave the opening prayer.

**Stewardship Update:** Fewer members participated in this year's campaign than last year's. People indicated that they like the materials that were presented, specifically how much it costs to run particular programs. We have 320 active family units. Last year, 140 responded compared to 111 this year. 58 increased their pledge, 12 decreased it, 20 are doing the same amount, and we had 21 new givers. 44 that participated last have yet to respond. Kevin will get back to Council about next steps. We did not follow the complete program this year. There was a recommendation that we use Best Practices for next campaign.

**Pastor Fritz Report** – Great December – Kid's Play, the Love Feast was phenomenal, and the Praise Band is moving on and providing a wonderful worship experience. We are at a crossroads where we need to find new coordinator. Upcoming events – Barbara Anderson needs Christmas Eve parking lot greeters. Council Retreat will be 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in February. Israel trip is in June. (See Sanctuary Improvement Project for update.)

**Pastor Miriam's Report** – James McDaniel is the percussionist for Contemporary Worship with additional responsibilities. Shelly Jakubowski's contract has been extended to June 30, with no renewal. (She has had 2 extensions on her contract since early 2022.) Blue Christmas was totally acapella due to COVID effecting musicians. She expressed concern about the cold-weather forecast for Christmas.

**YTD Finances and other Financial Matters** – Mark reported that are revenue is 3.5% above budget due to the personnel budget being lower. A big expense this month was \$4900 for server upgrades.

**Personnel Committee Updates** – Please refer to the Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes that were sent out for more detailed information. We have a candidate from the Des Moines, IA area. He is Lutheran and serving a Lutheran congregation. Larry Peterson along with his wife, April, will visit us January 24, 25, 26. We will need to relook at his compensation package because it may not be adequate to retain someone with his talents and skills. He is the only qualified candidate that has been found. The Personnel Committee meets again on January 9 and the Finance Committee on January 16. The annual Congregational Meeting is January 22 followed by Church Council meeting on January 23.

**Update on Sanctuary Improvement Project** – The following has happened or working on it:

- All rewiring in the Narthex area is complete.
- The lighting has been improved.
- Floor/Nave team has met.
- Chancel team has met.
- Alberto's old firm has been contacted as we need a local architect.
- The Team needs a new Team Coordinator due to David Beecher's retirement.

**Update on this year's Nomination Committee** – It was moved by Scott and seconded by Sue that the Church Council nominate the following to serve as members of the 2023-2025 Church Council and to be taken to the Congregation on 1/22/23 for their approval: Mike Earwood, Bill Grabill, Jason Hausner. Motion carried.

**Administrative items**

- November Minutes – It was moved by Rick and seconded by Scott to accept the minutes. Motion carried.
- Reminder – 6 carryover Council members, start thinking about Council member reps on committees
- Reminder – Year-end reports due to Linda by January 6, 2023.
- Reminder – January 22, 2023 Annual Congregation Meeting
- Reach Right 2023 Contract Update – Scott
- 2023 Staff/Council Planning Retreat sometime in January – Scott will set the date.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Jensen-Linton