

**Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Council Minutes**  
**May 22, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Scott Bosecker at 6:35 PM in the Conference Room. Those present were: Pastor Wiese, Pastor Beecher, Scott Bosecker, Bill Grabill, Mike Earwood, Xavier Lee, Jason Hausner, Steve Gunderson, and by Zoom - Patrick Bauer & Mark Bunker

**Devotion**

Steve gave the devotion based on a recent caving adventure with a Boy Scout Troop.

**Opening Comments/Student Rep**

Xavier announced that there was a good turnout for Senior Sunday on May 21<sup>st</sup> and preparations are being made for the Youth Trip at the end of June.

Scott reported that the Congregational Meeting had gone well; the proposed budget had passed and the meeting had only taken about half an hour.

**Pastors Reports**

**Pastor Wiese**

- Pastor commented very favorably on the music in yesterday's church services. He also mentioned dealing with the highs & lows of church work.
- Discussed the transition the COSLP (COS Lutheran Preschool) is going through.
- Stewardship Team will be attending Stewardship for all Season and learning best practices for Stewardship. Six Group Topics will take place from now to the end of the year.
- Larry Peterson has hit the ground running. It is great to have a seasoned veteran in place. No update on April Peterson's job search.
- Continue to move forward on the search for a Director of Youth & Family Ministry.
- Sanctuary Renewal Project – Don Livingston will coordinate the financial part and Leslie Klein will coordinate the relaunching of the various task groups.
- Mentioned the new group called "Speed Bumps". This group held its first meeting discussing sexuality, racism, environment, suicide & others.
- Thankful for all the initiatives and discussions from members of the congregation that he gets to be inspired by each week.

**Pastor Beecher**

- Pastor Beecher is also very pleased with how worship and music is doing.
- Believes that April Peterson has had a few leads in her job search.
- We have 3 youth interns this summer.
- Youth are going to Lutheridge this year.
- The search for the new Director of Youth and Families is ongoing. The job description has been updated and is on our website. JOY 93.3 Radio, ELCA Youth Network, our Synod are being used to get the word out. Although she encouraged everyone to continue to talk to people about our opening, she did mention that a young man had expressed interest in the position and we'd see where that goes moving forward.
- COSLP. Perhaps Colleen leaving presents an opportunity to reexamine the relationship between the Pre-School and Christ our Shepherd. This will be examined as we move forward as well as a review of what Pre-school programs might be offered in the future.

Pastor Wiese praised Pastor Beecher's work but pointed out that her current workload is unsustainable and we need to find some talented, experienced lay people to help in the next few months. A long discussion between council members followed which explored options & ideas for COSLP going forward.

### **Treasurer's Report/Budget**

Mark reported that April was another solid month with income 16% ahead of the budget. As of this meeting, May income is a little light but the past few solid months more than make up for that. Expenses for April were almost \$18 thousand under budget. Mark is projecting that we will break even for the year or perhaps a bit of a "profit".

Mark indicated the Delta Community Credit Union (DCCU) had sent some additional requests for paperwork and that Carol Jensen-Linton needed to sign a form. We had till the end of the month to do that and then COS should have a checking account with DCCU.

Mark indicated he wanted to review the ERTC narrative and see if he noticed any issues. Scott said he would coordinate any modifications Mark made with modifications Pastor Wiese made. The goal is to get the narrative cleaned up and returned to Mark Reese as soon as possible.

### **Personnel Committee Updates**

- It was felt that most of the Personnel Committee topics had been covered earlier in the meeting. Scott brought up the fact that the now-approved budget included money for a Health Care benefit for the Director of Youth & Family Ministry position. Scott had not been aware of this until the most recent Finance Committee Meeting. A lengthy discussion on how to move forward with this information followed.

### **Finance Committee Update: Scott**

- Currently 2 signatures are required on checks over \$500. The Finance Committee is working on amplifying our current Purchase Order system in such a way so as to eliminate the need for the "2 signatures on a check" requirement.
- The Finance Committee is working on cleaning up the Financial Policies Manual. Most of this is updating the titles of various staff positions in the manual.

### **FMT Update: Mike**

A floating dock is being built. Since it is floating, the exact location of the dock will be flexible and subject to further review after it is tested in different locations.

Palmetto Road Fishing Tournament planning is on track to be held on June 17th.

Palmetto Road Rest rooms – A zoning compliance letter has been received from Fayette Co. Zoning and Planning. The county will require a survey to be made after the footings are installed to ensure setbacks are complied with. ADA compliance will be required by the county. This will require an additional parking pad: 25 feet by 15 feet. A landscape plan will also be required.

An application for building permit has been made. The Building Department is asking for a plumbing plan. The goal was to have all these items taken care of by the end of this week.

Mark Barbour will be on vacation May 29<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Bill Grabill mentioned he is looking into Solar Power for COS. He is working with Georgia Interfaith Power & Light. They will assist us with a site survey and that will require a \$100 donation.

### **Administration Items**

- April Minutes – It was moved by Bill and seconded by Steve to accept the minutes as submitted. Motion carried.
- Thank You Notes – Shelly has some left over from previous signings. She will let us know who she sends them to.
- The Get-Well card we signed for Rick Burnett: Rick sent a text to me thanking council for the card and noted how he had been feeling a bit “down” when he received it and it lifted his spirits.
- Next Council meeting: June 26, 2023
- Next Devotional Assignment: June 26<sup>th</sup> by Patrick Bauer.
- Survey – Not tonight but Scott hopes to work on that in June.

#### **Open discussion Committee/Team Updates/Other**

- Mike asked for clarification on the budget deficit. Mark indicated that the deficit mentioned was for the whole budget and not just the personnel budget.

#### **Closing Prayer & Adjournment**

It was moved by Bill and seconded by Steve to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. Motion carried. The meeting was closed by all with the Lord’s Prayer spoken in unison.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Bosecker  
President