

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Council Minutes

August 27, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Scott Bosecker at 6:45 PM in the lower lobby of the church due to a power outage. Those present were: Pastor Wiese, Pastor Beecher, Scott Bosecker, Bill Grabill, Shelly Jones, Carol Jensen-Linton, Steve Gunderson, Kevin Hawkins, and Mark Bunker with Patrick Bauer. Ben McCumber, and Don Livingston by Zoom until the connection went down.

Devotion

Pastor Miriam began the meeting with an opening prayer.

Opening Comments

Scott reported that the CER for the Palmetto Road Bathroom project from a previous council meeting was amended. It was sent out by email to council members on July 30 for approval. By noon the next day, council had approved the amended CER.

We met with ReachRight to discuss how we might reach individuals who may be looking for a new church home. They will tweak our search terms. It was suggested that church members need to do more Google Reviews because that affects Google's algorithms.

Scott plans to launch a short survey the end of September that will be sent to people who have joined COSLC in the last 5 years.

Thrivent Choice Dollars was discussed. It may be prudent for us to post reminders at the beginning of the first quarter so members can take advantage of that benefit to the church.

We will be staying with Wells Fargo instead of changing completely to Delta Community Credit Union. DCCU overpromised and underdelivered on their Business Banking features. Meanwhile Wells Fargo has improved some due to new management.

Pastors Reports

Pastor Wiese

He was pleased to announce that we have found an excellent candidate for our Youth and Family position. Therefore, it was moved by Steve and seconded by Scott that we extend an offer of employment to Ethan Miller as Director of Youth and Family based on the recommendation of the Search Team and Personnel Committee pending a favorable background check. The motion was carried.

The 50th Anniversary of COSLC will be on the 1st Sunday in Advent, December 2024. We need to start making plans for a celebration.

Pastor Beecher

Ben McCumber met with the second-place candidate for the Youth and Family position. That person has been invited to help teach and chaperone the youth.

The Preschool has approved and voted to hire April Peterson as its new director.

Miriam has not set a date when she will retire but she will notify us when that date is set.

Sanctuary Improvement Report

Don Livingston was going to present a report. However since there was no power or internet access, he will do this by Zoom within the next week. Council will be notified when this will occur.

Stewardship Update

Kevin reported that there is continuity between last year and this year's theme – Multiplying Love. It is based on the idea of the generosity of giving enables us to tell the stories about the ministries that were enabled with the resources that are given. He presented a chart with a Gift Range Formula for a brochure that would be used.

We will follow the same calendar as last year, late October until just before Thanksgiving.

We are part of a cohort with large ELCA churches who are utilizing this stewardship campaign. We are one of the smallest churches in this group.

The plan is to be more specific to more giving groups.

Treasurer's Report/Budget

Mark reported that July was a tough month with 19% decrease in income. June was really good so there is some carry over. August seems to be on track.

We will close out our account at Delta Community Credit Union as stated above. Wells Fargo is offering a better business situation, especially since we have a new banker assigned to our account.

Personnel Committee Updates

See reports from Pastor Fritz and Pastor Miriam.

Children and Family Report

They will be adding a third Sunday School classroom and will need new furniture for it. They were advised that money was available in various dedicated accounts and to follow the Christ Our Shepherd Purchasing Policy document to buy the needed items.

FMT Update

The committee will be looking at our Property Utilization form and revising our fee structure for groups meeting at and utilizing our facilities.

Eric Jakubowski has stated that the Fellowship Hall upgrades need to be finished.

Administration Items

July minutes – It was moved by Bill and seconded by Fritz to accept the minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

Thank You notes will be sent to the following – Ben and Kevin

Survey – see Scott's report.

2023 Devotional Assignments – Jason Hauser

Next Council meeting is September 25, 2023

Open discussion Committee/Team Updates/Other

Two people are talking about restarting Stephen Ministry at our church.

Closing Prayer & Adjournment

It was moved by Bill and seconded by Shelly to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM. Motion carried. The meeting was closed by all with the Lord's Prayer spoken in unison.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Jensen-Linton
Secretary