

# **Council Minutes**

## **Messiah Lutheran Church**

### **November 19, 2020**

**Present:** Anne Baunach, Nick Brinkmeyer, Dave Carlsen, Dave Foss, Rev Chuck Harris, Christi Gillette, Rev Susan Kirlin-Hackett, Josh Luebke, Mike McLaughlin, Savannah Phelan, Charlie Radabaugh, Janene Smith and Sandi Wollum

**Absent:**

### **Gathering Time**

- **Call to Order**  
Charlie called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.
- **Opening Devotion / Prayer**  
Sandi Wollum shared a devotion from Rev Nadia Bolz-Weber.
- **Adoption of Agenda**  
Motion to approve the agenda as written. Motion passed.
- **Approval of Minutes: October 15, 2020**  
Motion to approve the minutes as presented. (Luebke / Brinkmeyer) Motion passed.
- **Financial Report**  
Janene gave an update on financials from October which were very good. Receipts were just over \$56,841 and expenses were just over \$49,656. Actual receipts were 97% of the budgeted receipts. Rent received was over budget since the school district paid three months of rent in October. Motion to accept the financial report. (Wollum / Carlsen) Motion passed.

### **Reflection on Mission, Vision & Core Values**

- **In Person Worship Service**  
With the latest mandates from the governor, we cannot look at in person worship at this point. Pastor Chuck talked about conversations and e-mail chains that he has been on with other pastors and that many are struggling with this.
- **Stewardship Drive**  
Charlie shared that over 82 people have returned their statements of intent. The new drive has been successful. The videos have been very strong. Pastor Chuck will tabulate last Sunday afternoon and will distribute updated statistics to members next Monday. Josh and Chuck are going to work together on how to present the data. Josh added that through the classes that many of us have been attending that many churches are at 50% of statements of intent after commitment Sunday and the first round of pledges. We were definitely ahead of that as of commitment Sunday.
- **Introducing and Organizing Call Teams**  
Charlie shared that he is asking the council to do calls to people who have not turned in their commitments yet. The ask is that calls start on Friday and are completed by next Tuesday. Chuck shared a script to be used for the calls and the lists of people to call by the council, finance and stewardship committee members. The list is current as of today and will be updated every couple of days.

- **Transition Teams**

The Executive Committee put together the transition team from the list of suggestions. They include Jonathan Baunach, Heather Caffoe, Nove Ferguson, Joe Hamell, and Anna McAlpine. Move to approve the following individuals as the transition team. (Carlsen / Brinkmeyer) Motion passed.

## **Accountability**

- **For the Good of Messiah**

- Don Minnick passed away this past week in California. Arnie Galli sent a note suggesting the 2020 Hampers be done in memory of Don Minnick.
- Charlie gave a “shout out” to Pastor Susan for joining the staff.
- Charlie reminded the group that Saturday night is Zoom Game Night. Savannah will be leading this activity.
- Thanks to Chuck for carrying such a heavy load in recent months.
- Shout out to the whole staff that are working too much while balancing family, friends, and so many other things.
- Susan will be meeting with the Care Team next week. She is in the process of reaching out to a number of members.

- **Memorial Funds**

Anne shared that the endowment committee funded the staff’s proposal for funding to improve the tech in worship. There is \$250 left in the Bud Larson Memorial account to fund tech and so the endowment committee has asked that this memorial account fund that piece. Mary Berglund (daughter of Bud Larson) shared that this is in line with the intent of the account. Move to authorize \$250 to be spent by memorial funds for this proposal. (Harris / Wollum) Motion carried.

- **Pastor’s Report**

Pastor Chuck submitted a written report to the council. He talked about all the special music in the advent and Christmas season. He officially welcomed Pastor Susan. He shared information about the staff retreat and ideas that the staff has for when we return to in-person worship. He also shared wisdom from Jan Nelson’s devotion at the staff retreat.

## **Implement Our Mission & Ministry**

### **Sending**

- **Review of Assignment & Tasks**

- Josh and Chuck will work on presenting stewardship data
- Council members are to make calls to their assigned list and send any updates that they receive back to Chuck. Calls should be complete by next Tuesday.
- Chuck will send the transition team information to the new team and Pastor Rebecca Shjerven.
- Chuck will ask Jan to put the link to the Statement of Intent on the front page of the website.

- **Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn the meeting. (Brinkmeyer / McLaughlin). Motion carried.

- **Lord’s Prayer**

- Pastor Chuck led the group in the Lord’s Prayer.