

# Council Minutes

## June 17, 2021

**Present:** Anne Baunach, Jonathan Baunach, Dan Fergusson, Dave Foss, Rev Chuck Harris, Rev Susan Kirilin-Hackett, Josh Luebke, Janene Nelson, Charlie Radabaugh, and Sandi Wollum

**Absent:** Mike McLaughlin

### Gathering Time

- **Call to Order**  
Charlie called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.
- **Devotions**  
Pastor Susan shared a devotion based on the blessing that she will use on Sunday morning with the call team. She asked each council member to share their favorite area of service at MLC.
- **Adoption of Agenda**  
Motion to approve the agenda as amended. (Luebke / Nelson) Motion passed.
- **Approval of Minutes: May 20, 2021**  
Motion to approve the minutes as corrected. (J. Baunach / Harris).
- **Financial Report**  
Janene gave an update on financials. May was another good month - almost as good as April. We had receipts of \$56,882. Expenses were \$50,977. Year to date, we have a positive balance of \$7,722. Motion to approve the financial report as presented. (A. Baunach / Fergusson). Motion passed.

### Reflection on Mission, Vision & Core Values

- **In Person Gatherings**  
Things continue to change quickly. With King County and the state looking at loosening restrictions, the council discussed what changes we want to make. The changes that the executive committee have recommended for July (contingent on what Governor Inslee recommends) are:
  - To increase capacity in the sanctuary from 60 to between 80 and 100 to see how it works
  - To lift the mask requirement for the song leaders as long as the plexi-glass is there

Motion: To empower the executive committee to decide on worship capacity moving forward. (Foss / Wollum). Motion passed.

Motion: Per the governor's requirements and regulations, allow the singers in worship to sing maskless if plexiglass is in place. (Luebke / Harris) Motion passed.
- **Replacement on Endowment Committee**  
Beth Gatzke has agreed to serve on this committee. Motion: To appoint Beth Gatzke to serve on the Endowment Committee. (Fergusson / A Baunach). Motion carried.
- **Call Committee**  
We have recruited the additional members of the call committee. Last month, we appointed Anne Baunach (Chair) and Dan Fergusson. Other members include: Christi Gillette, Lauren Mendez, Ryan

Monson, Joe Hamell with alternate Sandi Wollum. Motion: To form the call committee with the above listed members. (Luebke / J. Baunach)

- **Associate Pastor Ministry Description**

Pastor Chuck shared a draft of the Ministry Description for the Associate Pastor. Motion: That the Messiah Church Council approve the written ministry description for the position of Associate Pastor of Faith Formation as presented. (Harris / Wollum) Motion carried.

- **Stewardship for All Seasons**

Pastor Chuck shared that he has really struggled to find people to serve on the group to go through the Stewardship for All Seasons program. He talked with both Paul Marsh of GSB Consulting and the Executive team. The recommendation from Pastor Chuck and the Executive Team is to postpone for a year entering into the relationship with GSB Consulting for Stewardship of all Seasons and return the money to the Messiah Endowment Committee. Pastor Chuck plans to gather a small group to work on the fall stewardship drive. Motion: To postpone joining the Stewardship for All Season program, return the funds to the endowment committee, and revisit the topic in February 2022. (Luebke / Harris) Motion passed.

- **Faith Formation Program Committee**

Pastor Chuck met with a group of people last night interested in engaging in faith formation for youth and families. We are beginning in this interim time to develop four groups of interested people to shepherd the children and youth in the late summer and fall in both socializing and programming. The next meeting was in August.

- **Terminating Lease with Auburn School District**

Auburn School District has informed the district that they would like to pull their ECEAP programs into their elementary school buildings. They helped connect us to the YMCA who is looking for space for summer programming for the general population and then do before and after care for Washington Elementary. Motion: That Messiah mutually terminate our existing lease with the Auburn School District as of midnight, June 30, 2021. (Harris / A Baunach) Motion passed.

- **Entering Lease with the YMCA**

The YMCA is interested in entering into a long-term relationship and developing some programming together on a long-term basis. Motion: That Messiah enter into the lease with the Seattle YMCA beginning July 1, 2021, for a period of 13 months (until August 31, 2022) as presented. (Harris / A Baunach) Motion passed.

- **Sabbatical Plans**

Pastor Chuck shared with the council that it is his intention to take a sabbatical next summer (likely June - August) as per our sabbatical policy. He has a team that he is working with to craft a sabbatical plan including Anne Baunach, Dan Ferguson, Anna McAlpin, and Frank Recchio.

## **Accountability**

- **For the Good of Messiah**

- Charlie wanted to thank Pastor Susan for the work that she is doing on the newsletter and notes to members.
- Dan reminded us to thank the Transition Team for all the work that they did to prepare us for the Call Committee process.
- Josh has enjoyed being back in the sanctuary on Sunday and see congregational members that we haven't been able to see for 14-15 months.

- Jonathan let the council know that Fikes has donated a wonderful temperature taking machine to help with worship check-in.
- **Pastors' Reports**
  - Pastor Chuck submitted a written report. Pastor Chuck listed his vacation dates for the remainder of the year. He also thanked the church council for providing time away for church staff members.
  - Pastor Susan shared that she is hoping to hold an outdoor fellowship on a Sunday morning. We will discuss at the July meeting once we know new directives. She will be on vacation July 11 - 18 so she will not be at the next council meeting. The care team is meeting next Monday. Once we get more information from the governor, they will look at doing walking meetings at Auburn High School. She also hopes to begin doing in-person meetings with members in their homes. Pastor Susan presided at Erv Steinle's graveside service last Sunday. Next week, Pastor Susan will host the staff at her house for lunch. More people have requested to be added to the care team newsletter list. She would like to include it in the weekly update that is emailed to members. Pastor Susan thanked Pastor Chuck for all of his leadership.

## **Sending**

- **Review of Assignment & Tasks**
  - The Executive Committee will continue to monitor COVID recommendations for sanctuary capacity.
  - Pastor Chuck will follow up with the Endowment Committee and return the funds that they awarded the council for the Stewardship for all Seasons.
  - Pastor Chuck will work on the lease with the YMCA.
- **Adjournment**
  - Motion to adjourn the meeting. (A Baunach / Harris). Motion carried.
- **Lord's Prayer**
  - Pastor Chuck led the group in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Anne Baunach  
Council Secretary