

**The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
Council Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: July 21, 2020

Meeting Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

In Attendance: Pastor Teal Anderson, Deb Anthony, Connie Charitonuk, Pastor Greg Fetzer, Glenn Garbinski, Lindsay Guckert, Missy Leppo, Gina Miller, Laura Runyeon, Lisa Steel, Ruthann Sutherland, John Verbillis, Dan Williams, Owen Ashbrook, Sam Miller, and Linda Ruesse. Janet DeVinney and Evelyn Spratt joined the meeting after they were approved as members of Council.

| Topic | Details | Action/Follow-up |
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| Call to Order | The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by Laura Runyeon. | |
| Prayer | Pastor Greg Fetzer read the Daily Devotional from Acts 1:12-26. | |
| Record of E-Vote | On June 24, 2020 Laura Runyeon made a motion by email to approve the LCGS Reopening Plan submitted by the Reopening Committee and request that Council allow the Committee the flexibility of adjusting the reopening date, if necessary, based on the criteria set forth in the Plan. John Verbillis seconded the motion and the motion passed by electronic votes. | Motion approved |
| Minutes | Connie Charitonuk moved to approve the June Council meeting minutes. Deb Anthony seconded the motion and the motion passed. Connie Charitonuk moved to accept the July Council Member Reports and include them with the July minutes by attachment. John Verbillis seconded the motion and the motion passed. | Motion approved Motion approved |
| Treasurer's Report | Lindsay Guckert reviewed the June financial reports noting that giving remains consistent and expenses are low. Lindsay reminded all to use the dedicated accounts when possible. Connie Charitonuk made a motion to amend the January Council meeting motion that the signatories on the bank account for the congregation be the Council President, Vice President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and the Office Manager and those people currently are Laura Runyeon, Evelyn Spratt, Lindsay Guckert, Mark Leppo, and Gina Miller. Deb Anthony seconded the motion and the motion passed. | Motion approved |
| Nomination of Interim Council Members | Laura introduced the nomination of Evelyn Spratt and Janet DeVinney as members of Council. | |

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| | <p>Connie Charitonuk moved to approve Evelyn Spratt to complete the Council position vacated by Ken Lorentzen. Missy Leppo seconded the motion and the motion passed.</p> <p>John Verbillis moved to approve Janet DeVinney to complete the Council term vacated by Paul Smeton. Deb Anthony seconded the motion and the motion passed.</p> <p>Evelyn and Janet joined the meeting after they were approved.</p> | <p>Motion passed</p> <p>Motion passed</p> |
| Election of Council Vice President | Evelyn Spratt was elected as Council Vice President by unanimous acclamation. | Vice President elected |
| Facilities | <p>Glenn Garbinski updated Council that Constellation will begin the HVAC work in about six weeks, and it should be completed well ahead of the projected September building reopening date.</p> <p>Glenn announced that he is resigning from his Council position. He added that he will see through the installation of the new HVAC systems. Laura thanked Glenn for his continued service to the church.</p> | Informational |
| Reopening | <p>Gina Miller reported that the church is still in need of additional servers in order to reopen for in-person worship.</p> <p>Laura raised that there was a request from a ministry team to come back to meet in the building. Under the current plan from the Reopening Committee, the return of ministry groups occurs in steps 2 and 3.</p> <p>Laura Runyeon moved that Council reaffirms its commitment follow the plan from the Reopening Committee to determine the timeline of when people can return to the LCGS facility and Council will consider any changes to that plan that the Reopening Committee brings forward to Council. Deb Anthony seconded the motion and the motion carried.</p> | Motion passed |
| Church Sign | <p>Laura revisited the wording of the church sign as last month's motion on the wording expires on July 21, 2020.</p> <p>John Verbillis moved to leave the current sign in place until the end of September. Janet DeVinney seconded the motion. John Verbillis amended the motion to leave the current sign in place until two weeks before the Council approved building reopening date. Deb Anthony seconded the motion and the motion passed after some discussion.</p> | Motion passed |
| Mailbox | Gina Miller reported that the mailbox was damaged by someone attempting to break into it. The mailbox will need to be replaced and possibly moved. The mail is currently being held at the post office until the issue is resolved. | |

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| | Laura Runyeon moved to give the Church administrative staff permission to resolve the mailbox issue as they see fit. Evelyn Spratt seconded the motion and the motion passed. | Motion passed |
| Preschool Fall Plans | Pastor Teal Anderson informed Council that the Preschool is planning to have some in-person classes following the Office for Childcare and CDC guidelines. This will include social distancing and increased cleaning. Students will attend in-person class one day per week and online other days. The in-person classes will be limited to no more than six students in a class at a time. | Informational |
| Council Book Study | Pastor Greg recommended that Council read together <i>The Trouble I've Seen</i> by Drew G. I. Hart or <i>White Fragility</i> by Robin DiAngelo. Janet recommended watching the twenty-minute video from the author of <i>White Fragility</i> . Janet will send a link for the video to Council. Council agreed to watch the video by Robin DiAngelo before the August Council meeting and be prepared to discuss it at the meeting. Council will begin a book study of <i>The Trouble I've Seen</i> in September. | Council will be prepared to discuss the video from Robin DiAngelo at the August meeting. |
| Adjournment | Pastor Greg led the Council in prayer and the meeting adjourned at 8:34pm. | Meeting adjourned |
| Next Meeting | Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 7 pm. | |

Committee Reports

Associate Pastor's Report for July 21, 2020, Council Meeting

Pastoral Care

- Pastoral Care Team members continue to make phone calls to LCGS households.
- The team has discussed how to share communion with those who are unable to safely attend worship in the sanctuary when in-person worship resumes.

Meetings

- VBS preparation, 6/15, 6/18, 6/25
- Council, 6/16
- Staff meetings, 6/16, 6/23, 6/30, 7/7, 7/14
- Worship webcast/recording sessions, 6/20, 6/27, 6/30, 7/11
- Confirmation readiness meeting, 6/24
- Pastoral Care Team, 6/30
- Preschool Board, 7/14
- Executive Committee, 7/14
- Sunday school planning, 7/16

Events

- Emanuel 9 Day of Remembrance virtual worship services, 6/17
- Live prayers following worship “premiere” events on Facebook, 6/21, 6/28, 7/12
- Virtual VBS kick-off event, 6/27
- Worship Assistant Training, 7/9

Wider Church Connections

- DE-MD Synod weekly Zooms for rostered leaders, 6/18, 6/25, 7/9, 7/16

Vacation Days taken

- July 1-6

Vacation Bible School

- Thank you to all who helped create our virtual VBS program!
- Thank you to all who contributed donations for the food pantry at The Sharing Table!
- The VBS Worship Series and the Sunday preschool Zoom group continue through July 26.
- We had 38 students participate so far. Families can contact Gina Miller to request student bags with activity materials, until they are all distributed.

Sunday School

- We are exploring the possibility of holding Sunday school similar to how we held virtual VBS: Small group recording teams would each prepare a video once every 4-6 weeks (depending on how many teams we have), geared toward families with elementary students. Families could watch the videos on their own schedule or opt to participate in a Zoom group to interact with a host and a “pod” of other families.
- Confirmation instruction and high school Sunday school will begin as Zoom meetings, with the possibility of holding in-person classes later in the school year.
- We are planning to use the Living the Word curriculum for at home/family use and Bloom in Faith as material to support our recording teams and Zoom group hosts. Both use the Narrative Lectionary. The Narrative Lectionary year begins on Sunday, September 13.
- Communion instruction workshop, new date TBD.

Confirmation

- We plan to hold Confirmation on Reformation Sunday, October 25, 2020. If it is not possible to hold it in the sanctuary, we will hold it via Zoom and share the recording with the congregation. Confirmands will participate in a virtual workshop to prepare the material we would otherwise have covered at the confirmation retreat. Family conferences are being held (via Zoom/Facetime/Skype) as students complete their assignments.
- Confirmation instruction will be held via Zoom when the new Lectionary Year begins September 13.

Youth Council Report-July 2020

These groups typically do not meet over the summer months but due to the current situation, both groups asked that we continue to meet either bi-weekly or weekly.

Youth meet once this month due to vacation schedules with a focus on materialism.

Young adults met to discuss self-worth.

*Question was brought up as to if groups could meet socially in person. This was brought up at our Faith Group Leadership meeting where it was suggested that groups follow the church model in meeting virtually until opening.

*Thanks to youth who are participating in church services as readers.

*Kendall Marx has joined LYO, Lutheran Youth Organization.

July 2020 OUTREACH REPORT

SERVANTHOOD

Priorities and Objectives:

Current / Pending Activities:

Upcoming Events:

1. School Supply Drive - Drop off donations on Sunday, August 2nd from 9 - 11 am in the LCGS parking lot.

Accomplishments:

1. VBS collected and delivered food for Sharing Table.

Items for Council Attention/Action:

1. Approval for Servanthood to conduct drive up food drive for Sharing table Saturday August 22 8:15-10:15.

2. What should LCGS overall be doing to support organizations We have helped in the past? Should we list groups and addresses or websites for people to send donations directly?

3. Peace by Piece Quilters would LOVE to use Celebration Hall with appropriate Social Distancing measures.

Communications

Priorities and Objectives [observable and (ideally) measurable]

Supporting Pastors and Office Manager with online worship, website and re-opening needs

Upcoming Events

Accomplishments

Items for Council Attention/Action

Keeping Communications up-to-date on needs

Social Justice

Social Justice Ministry Team

Priorities and Objectives

Social Justice Ministry Team Mission Statement

Gifted with Faith - We believe that, as followers of Jesus Christ, our neighbor is anyone in need of mercy. (See Luke 10:25-37)

Growing as Disciples - We seek to learn and encourage discussion about the political, legal, social, and economic issues which confront our neighbors but which we may not have experienced.

Grounded in Community - We are discerning how we as the church can effectively advocate for social justice within our community.

Adopted on: 8/1/17

Upcoming Events

- Zoom movie and faith discussion - Wednesday, July 29 at 7:30 p.m. on the 2019 documentary film "Emanuel," about the 2015 shootings that took the lives of nine people during church Bible study at Emanuel AME Church, Charleston, SC.
- Faith groups are selecting anti-racism resources with help from the team for upcoming sessions, and the team is working on training and education programs.

Accomplishments

Recommendation

- Recommends people view the documentary film Emanuel to learn more about the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, faith, and forgiveness.
- Council and all interested in learning more participate in the Delaware-Maryland Synod Racial Justice Ministry Team Zoom series "Listen and Learn About Racism" on Mondays, July 27 and August 3, 10 and 17 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Participants can register for one or all four sessions.
- Here's a link to the information and registration:

<https://demdsynod.org/listen-and-learn-about-racism/>

Items for Council Attention/Action

CLAS report

7/21/2020

Submitted by : Debbie Anthony

Since the June report, activities have been limited due to COVID restrictions.

Updated reports were submitted from those ministry teams who did have information to share:

Grief-share:

There has been a push by the organization that puts out GriefShare to do a fall session via Zoom or a hybrid thereof. Sally feels that it limits personal one on one interaction and does not allow for development of fellowship and support between members. She would like to bring this

up for feedback and in case it is questioned why we aren't doing a fall session. She would like to continue griefshare in the future when logistics play out.

Daytimers:

Owen has already shared the results of the Daytimers' thoughts on the BLM signage.

Lay Eucharist:

Pastor Teal reported to Council information related to the communion table being expanded in an email sent to all Council members on 6/21/20. Please refer to that email.

Everyone who reported thoughts related to the signage issue were not in favor of a Black Lives Matter posting, and either said the current posting is fine or would have wanted no posting of any sort.