

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

Meeting Date: March 31, 2020

Meeting Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

In Attendance: Pastor Teal Anderson, Deb Anthony, Connie Charitonuk, Pastor Greg Fetzer, Glenn Garbinski, Lindsay Guckert, Missy Leppo, Ken Lorentzen, Gina Miller, Laura Runyeon, Paul Smeton, Lisa Steel, Ruthann Sutherland, John Verbillis, Dan Williams, Stewart Goemmer, and Roxanne Barrow

Topic	Details	Action/Follow-up
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 7:08pm by Ken Lorentzen.	
Prayer	Missy Leppo read from the bible about Jesus' baptism and the great commission and led the Council in prayer.	
Minutes	Deb Anthony moved to approve the February Council meeting minutes. Connie Charitonuk seconded the motion and the motion passed.	Motion approved
Treasurer's Report	Lindsay Guckert informed Council that February ended just about even. The FLO team will meet virtually to discuss how to best use the funds in the dedicated accounts and will then get that information to the Council and ministry groups. Ken announced that he is planning to send something out to the congregation about the state of our finances and include a thank you for continuing to send offerings in to the church. Stuart Goemmer added that he and Rocky Barrow are relieved to see that so many members are continuing to donate during this difficult time.	Informational Ken will update the Congregation on the finances as well as the opportunities to gather virtually.
Youth	Connie updated Council that the Youth had a virtual Zoom meeting focused on Philippians 4:6-7 about giving your concerns to God through prayer. The Youth enjoyed the experience and requested to meet again the next Sunday. Pastor Greg Fetzer, Laura Runyeon, and Tim Miller participated as well. At this point, the Youth Sunday service is postponed. Connie is trying to get something for the Young Adults to get together virtually as well. It is hard to get information to that age group because they don't have updated contact information. Gina Miller will work with Connie to get contact information for the young adults.	Informational
CLAS	Deb reported that she is getting in contact with all group leaders. Many activities are now on hold. Ken suggested thinking about what congregational life will be	Informational

	like when we are able to gather again and perhaps planning something similar to a rally day event.	
Worship and Music	<p>Missy informed Council that for the Maryland State Boy Choir concert LCGS was required to provide the boys with housing. LCGS was not able to provide the housing through members and the Boy Choir requested that we provide hotel and breakfast for the boys which cost \$2,100. The money was paid out of Special Music and other accounts. There were about 50 people attending the concert. Missy reported that the virtual worship services will not be recorded in the sanctuary anymore, but recorded from the pastors' homes and then spliced together. The services most likely will not be live streamed, but posted on the website.</p> <p>Flowers have been cancelled for Easter and the office will contact donors to determine if they are willing to still donate in honor or memory of someone. Matt May's last day is April 13, 2020. The committee will not begin a search for a new Music Director at this time because they cannot interview people in person. Vicky Yurechko has agreed to lead the bell choir after Matt's last day and Angela Kromm will serve as interim organist.</p> <p>Glenn Garbinski thanked Pastor Greg, Pastor Teal, Matt May, Shawn Nesaw, and Joel and Heather Raedeke for the excellent work to provide virtual worship. He has heard from several people that our services have translated well online and all agreed that many members and nonmembers are enjoying the services.</p>	Informational
Facilities	<p>Glenn reported that there is an issue with the HVAC system in the preschool area. It needs a \$400 repair now and the compressor is also in bad shape and will require another \$8,000 repair. Stuart said that the unit is the first priority for the Capital plan. Glenn will get an updated quote and the funds for repairs will come from the Capital fund.</p> <p>Paul reported that the Parsonage needs some repairs that will cost a couple thousand dollars. The Facility and Budget teams will coordinate to determine whether now is the best time to make those repairs.</p>	Informational
Christian Ed	<p>Ruthann Sutherland asked if there were ways for Sunday School to continue. Pastor Teal Anderson responded that she is keeping the Confirmation classes going and she is planning to work with Sunday School teachers to get something out. Gina has given the Sunday School teachers the contact information for the students and the lessons.</p>	Informational
Outreach	<p>John Verbillis updated Council that the Peace by Piece quilting group is working on making face masks for hospitals and others in need.</p>	Informational

	<p>Blessing in a backpack items were given to Havre de Grace just before schools closed.</p> <p>LCGS will be serving at the Sharing Table April 25th. The Sharing Table is serving all meals to go and handing out groceries so they are limiting the volunteers. We will still need donations of food.</p>	
Stewardship	<p>Dan Williams reported that Owen Ashbrook has forwarded a Stewardship toolkit to him from the Lower Susquehanna Synod. The team still needs to meet to determine direction and goals. Pastor Teal said that our synod also has some resources that she will forward to Dan.</p>	Informational
Checking In with Members	<p>Gina Miller informed Council that Dawn Love has been calling to check in with our senior members to find out if they have any concerns or needs. Dawn is then passing any needs on to the Pastors.</p> <p>Pastor Teal said that the Pastoral Care team is calling each household. So far most people are doing ok. There are several member families who are now hurting through loss of employment.</p>	Informational
Budget	<p>Stuart discussed that the 2020 projected budget had a \$55,000 deficit. The giving estimate has increased by \$20,000. He has determined that we can strategically glean about \$10,000 from dedicated accounts. These adjustments could bring the deficit down to \$25,000. Stuart also reported that the working capital is a balance of \$108,000 that is there for these extreme circumstances.</p> <p>Stuart added that the Capital Fund has over \$66,000. There is also over \$10,000 of endowment interest that can be disbursed. Stuart recommends doing the first priority actions from the Capital Plan including the preschool HVAC system and begin the priority two actions.</p> <p>Ken noted that he would like to add new lines to the next budget for leadership expenses including three retreats for Council a year based on the success of the recent retreat. Stuart said there was a line item for that previously that was removed, but can be added back in to the next budget.</p> <p>Ken discussed that Council needs a strategy for disposition of the budget vote since we were not able to have the Congregational meeting in March. Council could do a continuing resolution to be finalized at a future congregational meeting.</p>	Informational
Virtual Services	<p>Pastor Greg reported that they can tell from the website that the virtual services have been reaching around 200 people. Gina indicated that traffic on the website has increased and there are several new subscribers to the Epistle. There have also been around 80 people watching the services live on Facebook with many leaving prayer requests and other comments.</p>	Informational

Faith Groups	Pastor Greg informed Council that most Faith Groups are continuing through Zoom or Skype. The Sunday afternoon Baptism group will soon resume virtually. Pastor Greg is also leading a Sunday morning lectionary study, as well as online morning and evening prayer on Wednesday and Thursday.	Informational
Holy Week	Pastor Greg noted that there will be services available online for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.	
Adjournment	Missy Leppo closed the meeting in prayer and the meeting adjourned at 9:01pm.	Meeting adjourned
Next Meeting	Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 7 pm in Room 206	