



## Mount Calvary Lutheran Church

### Council Meeting Notes

**Date:** April 19, 2022

**Time:** 6:30-8:30pm

**Location:** Fireside Room

**Attendees:** Eric Baertsch, Corey Baisch, Jeremy Bierlein, Rebecca Gierok, NaDyne Glidden, Tom Jenkins, Andy Lees, Katie Radmer, Molly Schutz, Chris Slania, Kelli Weiss, Melissa Meinhardt

### Opening Prayer

**LeaderWise** – Mary Kay presentation/workshop (90 minutes)

Who are we now, what is our participation in God's mission and how do we carry it out?

### I/We Worship Because.....

- To see neighbors – hold each other, connect to others, empathy, to make a difference in the world
- Get outside of self – meditate/quiet mind
- Praise god (song & prayer); serve god
- Safe place
- Confess, sacraments and word, renewal and purpose – multiple levels
- Hope – get and give
- Sing – collective use of bodies to praise
- Enrich family relationships
- Reminded of bigger things
- Holding on to tradition – that which grounds us
- Feed us to go out into the world
- Teach our children
- To support members and community
- Build community of trust for all ages

### Learnings

- No substitute for in person, BUT there has to be multiple modes of worship
- We are flexible and supportive
- Staff and members are adaptive
- Online matters, so does quality
- We're pretty good at change
- We've expanded what worship CAN be
- We have permission to try
- Communication role is fundamental
- Kids get more out of in person worship

### Values

- Love, community, compassion, supporting others
- Let kids be kids
- All about the people

- Generous
- Good stewards of resources
- Worship is a group process, intergenerational and participatory
- “we will figure it out” ingenuity and flexibility

### **Non-negotiables**

- Some tradition remains
- Creating meaningful worship regardless of tradition
- Adapt music style to different ages and modes of worship
- Creativity
- Encourages participation by all that is meaningful to them
  - Able to make children feel loved and want to be part of the service (motivate and inspire)

### **Homework**

- Experience different styles of worship – go to a couple different churches. What is God up to there, are people engaged? What do we like or don’t like?
- Ask members of Mount Calvary why they worship
- Statement of who we are and why we worship so therefore this is the type of person we would be looking for – get feedback from the congregation

### **Approval of minutes from the last meeting – March 15, 2022**

- Motion to approve minutes from previous meeting:  
 Moved: Chris  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Eric  
 Minutes are approved.
- Email Motion to allocate \$100 from the council’s discretionary funds to purchase a baby gift to our mission partners in Asia, Susan and Ishak Derek  
 Moved: Molly  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rebecca  
 Motion passes

### **Finance Updates – Eric Baertsch**

- Income is almost the same as last year – surplus is very similar to last year as well
- Mortgage is at 5% now and they are looking into refinancing before September

### **Old Business -**

- Parking lot lights update (NaDyne) - lights came in under budget.
- Update on conversation with Dakota County (Pastor Tom)

### **New Business – Decisions/Approvals**

- 2022 Synod Assembly (Pastor Kelli)
- Annual meeting luncheon volunteers (NaDyne)
- Joint Venture with Joy Lutheran Church – Parker, CO
- Need a new bladder for the boiler - \$1462 – There is \$1000 in furnace repair budget

### **New Business - Discussion**

- Landscaping project funding (Pastor Tom)

- Synod ministry grants (Pastor Tom)
- Sexual misconduct/youth protection policy revision (Pastor Kelli)

#### **Future Business**

- Council goal setting
- Name Value – Reconciling in Christ
- Endowment Fund

#### **Adjourn/Lord's Prayer**

## Old Business -

- **Parking lot lights update** (NaDyne)

*The parking lot lights were converted to LED fixtures this past week.*

*Came in under budget*

- **Update on conversation with Dakota County** (Pastor Tom)

*Our homework assignment from the county was to determine the number of parking spots we need for the larger attended service such as Christmas Eve and Easter. We have people assigned to count the spots on Easter morning for each service. In addition, Tom is checking with a couple other organizations and will update us as new information is learned.*

*86 cars at the largest service this Easter*

## New Business – Decisions/Approvals

- **2022 Synod Assembly** (Pastor Kelli)

*Our annual meeting/gathering for the synod is Friday, May 13 and Saturday, May 14. The shortest way I can describe the synod is that it is the network of congregations in our geographical area (St. Paul metro and surrounding area). We can bring two delegates in addition to Kelli and Tom. Would any of you like to come along? Here's a link with information on this year's synod assembly: <https://spas-elca.org/events/synod-assembly/>*

*Andy will check on his schedule*

- **Annual meeting luncheon volunteers** (NaDyne)

*Our annual meeting will be held on Sunday, May 22 after the second service. This is the first Sunday that we will have the second service be an outdoor service. After the annual meeting, we will be serving lunch outside, weather permitting. If the weather does not cooperate, we will be serving downstairs in the fellowship hall. The cooks will need volunteers to assist with the serving. Would you consider being a server that day?*

**Volunteers: Andy, Molly, Corey, Eric, Katie**

- **Joint Venture with Joy Lutheran Church – Parker, CO and Agape** (Pastor Kelli)

*Joy Lutheran Church will be coming to the cities from Colorado for their high school summer trip. They had originally planned on the youth gathering, but since it was canceled, they are creating their own youth gathering lite. They would like to have Dave Scherer (AGAPE\*) come and perform but are looking for a congregation to host him. Dave is our (only?) ELCA rapper. Their pastor, Ryan Jerome, used to be on staff at Mount Calvary, so they asked if we would be willing to host. I propose we make a motion to host Dave's performance on Wednesday, July 27 and waive our building fees for the event. Dave charges roughly \$1500 to perform- they are not asking us to contribute to his fees but are inviting us to join them if we would like.*

**2 organizations wanting to invite us**

**Anti-racism – Tuesday, June 7th morning event**

**Performance - Wednesday night**

**Eric: Move to waive the building fee for these two events**

**Corey: 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Motion passes**

## **New Business – Discussion/Information**

- **Landscaping project funding** (Pastor Tom)

*Members of the Executive Council and Finance Team met to discuss funding options for the landscaping project. We all have homework to do before we meet again, but we will have a plan for the council in May to hopefully be voted upon at the May annual meeting.*

- **Phase 1 – \$54-\$75K – (thinking average of \$66K – possibly using part of asset renewal along with other allotted money and donations)**
- **2<sup>rd</sup> phase total was over \$100K**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> phase included space in between the buildings**
- **This all needs to be approved by the congregation on the May 22<sup>nd</sup> (council will vote on the what is going to the congregation on May 17<sup>th</sup>)**

- **Synod ministry grants** (Pastor Tom)

*We applied for a grant from the Synod for our front yard landscaping project. We felt it was an invitation to our surrounding community to use the green space area. We were not awarded any funds.*

- **Sexual misconduct/youth protection policy revision** (Pastor Kelli)

*Mount Calvary received a request from Grinnell, our insurance company, regarding a change to this policy. The change requested was to always have two adults with youth and children for all church activities. Pastor Kelli and NaDyne met with our church insurance agent to discuss this request and share our concerns that we would not be able to guarantee two adults for all activities. Our insurance agent assured us that this was a request and not a policy requirement. Our coverage would not be impacted. We shared that doors are left open if meetings are in rooms or the gatherings are in large areas where anyone can walk through. He felt that this was sufficient and that we did not need to change our policy.*

### **Motion to adjourn the meeting:**

**Moved: Corey**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Chris**

**Motion passes**

### **Lord's Prayer**