

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, March 9, 2021 – 7 PM via Online Zoom

## **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (GSLC) Council was called to order via Zoom at 7:03 PM on March 9, 2021, by Kristi Buchholz, Council President.

**Present:** Pastor Jeremy Serrano, Candace Bradley, Kristi Buchholz, Scott Etzel, Mike Henry, Sue Hertless, Laura Mott, Renee Reis

**Absent:** John Mott, Jay Neyenhouse, Leone McCullough (submitted her resignation)

**DEVOTIONS AND OPENING PRAYER** – Pastor Jeremy

## **RECOGNITIONS**

- Sue Hertless recognized and gave a big THANK YOU to Pastor Jeremy, Jessica Serrano, Tom Deans Flegal, and Jamie Rodemsky, who faithfully set up the Zoom/You Tube technology for members to have Sunday worship at 10 AM or later. We love and appreciate you!
- Laura Mott recognized Vicki Smiglewski for her service sharing her time volunteering as Financial Secretary.
- Laura Mott recognized Susan Metzger for sharing her computer technology skills posting and managing the online system in both posting the financial offerings as well as the online church database and Sunday attendance.
- Kristi Buchholz recognized and thanked everyone (Pastor Jeremy, Jessica Serrano, Jamie Rodemsky, and Tom Deans Flegal) on Sunday who helped “improvise” for the Zoom/You Tube service when the computer equipment did not work properly.
- Scott Etzel recognized and thanked Mike Henry and Candace Bradley for helping him get started with Social Ministry.
- Scott Etzel recognized and thanked Dana Deniston who gave him data for our meeting tonight.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION** made by Candace Bradley to accept the February 9, 2021 Council Minutes; seconded by Mike Henry; motion passed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Pastor's Report**

- Pastor Jeremy reported 35 people came to the church parking lot on Ash Wednesday to receive ashes on their forehead. He said it went wonderfully, and people outside of our membership also participated.
- Pastor will be out of town April 14-16 for his father's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Pastor will be out of town April 26-28 attending a pastoral retreat.
- Pastor asked Council what our thoughts are on worship for Holy Week. Scott gave a brief report on Covid, and stated we may be in the zone to accommodate 50% of the congregation on Easter Sunday. Pastor suggested having Easter worship at 11 AM to have warmer weather in the courtyard. He said as long as we are outside, we can sing and participate with the responses. (We had approximately 125 people in attendance two-years ago for Easter Sunday.)

Council agreed, conditions and weather permitting, we can hold Easter service outside in the courtyard at 11 AM. If it rains, we can go inside the Sanctuary since the pews are already taped off for social distancing. Mike Henry suggested if there is an overflow of people in the Sanctuary, some people can possibly watch a big-screen TV set up for this purpose in the Fellowship Hall.

Pastor suggested we have in-person service on Easter Sunday, and Zoom for Good Friday and Palm Sunday. He said he would have to think about how to do the Maundy Thursday service.

- Synod Assembly is coming up, May 6-8, and will be held online this year. There will be a vote for a new Bishop. A new platform called Loomie will be used to vote, so delegates will need to use both Zoom and Loomie on their computer. Renee Reis and Laura Mott are interested in attending as our voting members.
- Pastor reported the parsonage does not have a garage, and his family is running out of storage space. He and his family have been cleaning out a storage shed upstairs, and would like to use that for storage.

**MOTION** made by Kristi Buchholz to allow Pastor Jeremy to use one-half of the storage shed for his storage; seconded by Sue Hertless; motion passed.

### **President's Report**

Kristi suggested we do treat bags for the kids for Easter Sunday – Renee said she will help with this. Pastor suggested if the treat bags are not all used, we can take them to grandparents!

## **Committee Reports**

*Please see the individual committee reports. Some additional discussion occurred on the following topics:*

### **Finance – Laura Mott**

- Laura reported we need to finalize the situation with Stephen Ministry. She said a motion has been on the books since January 2020. There were two donors who contributed money to Stephens Ministry. Sue stated these two donors would like a check cut for the California Reentry Institute in San Quentin Prison, wherein inmates up for parole have engaged in this 3-year program. Betty Jacobsen is one of the team members in the program. There is \$1,279.12 in this account.
- **Stephen Ministry Discussion - March 10, 2020 MOTION** made by Sue Hertless to move the Stephen Ministry money, contingent upon approval from the two donors, to Resurrection Lutheran Church; seconded by Nancy Judge. Discussion. There is a lack of interest in the Stephen Ministry program at Good Shepherd at this time, so Pastor will talk with the two donors - contingent upon their approval, this money will be moved to Resurrection Lutheran Church; motion passed.
- **Stephen Ministry - March 9, 2021 MOTION** made by Kristi Buchholz to move the Stephen Ministry money in the amount of \$1,279.12, contingent upon approval from the two donors, to California Reentry Institute, as a donation to continue their work; seconded by Laura Mott; motion passed.
- Laura reported that, by May 31, Quickbooks is going to force us to upgrade our system, which may force us to get an updated computer. Without a new computer, we will not be able to use the Quickbooks upgrade and Windows 10 programs. Pastor suggested we ask Jamie to buy a new computer with a bigger screen right now – this purchase will go under “technology.” Laura will work with the Finance Committee to make this happen.

### **Evangelism – Sue Hertless**

Sue reported the February 16 hour-long Zoom call with Bishop Medardo, Pastor Abelina, Pastor Arisbe, Lenny Nunez, Betty Jacobsen, and Sue, with translators, was good discussion among the group. Sue stated as long as they have things to talk about, they will hold a monthly Zoom meeting. *(See Sue’s Evangelism report for more detail.)*

### **Property and Long-Range Planning – Mike Henry**

- Mike reported that he touched base with Dana about the kitchen upgrades. He will talk with the Property and Long-Range Planning Committee about getting these kitchen upgrades done.
- Mike reported he has a Property meeting planned for March 16 with his team regarding the roofing project. Mike will get back to John Mortenson after the March 16 Property meeting. Mortenson said the proposals will increase due to significant increase in supplies, and gravel disposal from the roofs. Mike said we can spread out the gravel in the upstairs

parking lot to save disposal fees. He said there is also discussion on solar on a new roof. He said Dana is concerned about a leaking roof, and whether Friends Feeding Friends (FFF) work could be compromised.

- Mike was approached by someone who wants to use our space for a dish network; that would be the fourth cell service using our property. He will find out more information.

### **Social Ministry – Scott Etzel**

- Scott reported Dana informed him FFF fed 3,151 people, furnished 12 households, and provided cold drinks and grooming supplies for 150 shelter clients.
- Scott reported Lutheran Social Services (LSS) is an outreach program. LSS does similar work as what FFF does, but rather than food and furnishings LSS assists with housing, finance, and support services for the homeless. He sees LSS as a nexus with FFF, both doing similar work.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** made by Sue Hertless to adjourn; seconded by Renee Reis; motion passed, and meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM.

Date of next regular Council meeting – April 13, 2021, 7 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Candace Bradley, Council Secretary  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church