

# **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

Church Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 8, 2022 – 7 PM Fellowship Hall

## **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (GSLC) Council was called to order at 7:04 PM on February 8, 2022, by Kristi Buchholz, Council President.

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

## **DEVOTIONS AND OPENING PRAYER** – Pastor Jeremy

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ROLES FOR 2022**

Kristi will continue as President; Renee will be Vice President; Candace will continue as Secretary; Sue will continue as Member-at-Large. All members were in agreement that no officer can be precluded from being on the Executive Committee if they are on a committee, such as Mutual Ministry.

Laura said she has keys, folders, and binders for any Council members who may need these supplies.

## **RECOGNITIONS**

- Scott Etzel recognized Dana Deniston and the Friends Feeding Friends (FFF) volunteers for their ongoing service to the community with FFF programs distributing food, clothing, and furnishings to those in needs.
- Renee Reis recognized Laura Mott for assisting with our ELCAYG refund.
- Renee Reis recognized Pastor Jeremy for assisting with flamingo flocking, when needed.
- Candace Bradley recognized and thanks Alan Lester and Ron Figueroa for their dedication to being ushers at Sunday services.
- Sue Hertless recognized Laura Mott for all the hard work she put into the Annual Meeting Brochure. We appreciate all that you do for us, and love you for the kindness you share with each of us that walks through the church office doors.
- Kristi Buchholz thanked those members who are on for their third term, and those who are on their second term, and those who just show up!

## **CORRESPONDENCE** – None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### ○ **Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION** made by Scott Etzel to accept the January 11, 2022 Council Minutes; seconded by Renee Reis; discussion – Pastor Jeremy said he is a “recipient” of the Mutual Ministry team, he does not oversee it. Candace will make this amendment to the January 11 Minutes; motion passed.

**MOTION** made by Kristi Buchholz to accept the Special Congregational Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2022; seconded by Renee Reis; motion passed.

**MOTION** made by Sue Hertless to approve the Annual Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2022; seconded by Mike Henry; motion passed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Pastor's Report**

Pastor Jeremy said Pastor Brandon Peck talked with him about changing the day the contract starts for his being pulpit supply during Pastor Jeremy's sabbatical. Pastor Jeremy would like to pay Pastor Peck as a supply pastor on that first Sunday. Pastor Peck's contract will start the next day, Monday, June 6, 2022.

**MOTION** made by Kristi Buchholz to accept the letter of pastoral service; seconded by Renee Reis; motion passed.

Pastor Jeremy stated his total compensation is \$90,000 – he said to refer to the Pastor Clergy Compensation Breakdown 2022. Pastor explained that the parsonage (housing) is 30% of his total compensation package.

Pastor said if it is not too late, on Transfiguration Sunday, February 27, and can burn pledges in the barbeque.

### **President's Report**

Kristi reported she thought the Annual Meeting went well. Kristi said a parent at her preschool needed food, so she came to FFF; Dana gave Kristi food and a variety of household supplies for this family in need.

### **Committee Reports**

*Please see the individual committee reports; if any questions, see Council Secretary. Some additional discussion occurred on the following topics:*



## **Finance – Laura Mott**

- Laura reported she will have the financials ready later.

## **Evangelism – Sue Hertless**

- Sue reported we are hosting Winter Nights March 19, 20, and 27, 2022, and she will need help with cooking food and monetary donations. Sue will include a message in the e-blast for all to see. She would like to raise about \$500 for the Winter Nights program.

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

- Mike reported we are ready to submit amended drawings to the CCEH people for the kitchen upgrades. Property is working on a plan to show the stainless-steel backsplash, and the plan-checker they are working with is working out well. They are on target for construction to take off around May.
- Mike reported DISH Network is still working with the city, trying to get approvals to add to the steeple without structural drawings on the footing. Mike received a letter from the City of Concord concerning T-Mobile wanting to change their antennas on our steeple; to do that, they have requested our archived drawings. The City will need our signature; Mike should sign as "Mike Henry, Property Manager for Good Shepherd Church."
- Mike reported that our insurance company, Guide One, is requiring an Electrical System Inspection and Maintenance Procedure be performed as soon as possible. Mike has responded to the insurance company requesting that this procedure be deferred until 2023, since the cost for this requirement was not included in the 2022 estimated budget. The cost for the procedure is estimated to be between \$3,000 to \$5,000, which does not include any cost(s) to correct / repair / replace any existing hazardous, deficient, or non-code compliant condition that may be disclosed during the inspection and maintenance procedure.
- Mike reported regarding the church sign down on Clayton Road, he found a second contractor for another quote. Golden State came through with an \$8,000 quote, down from \$11,000. The estimator should have numbers to Mike this week. Mike does not think a permit would be required.

## **Social Ministry – Scott Etzel**

- Scott reported FFF canceled their shelter meal in January out of an abundance of caution due to Covid.
- Scott reported he has scheduled another blood drive for Friday, April 15, from 1 PM to 6 PM. He said there is a critical shortage in the Bay Area and nationwide.
- Scott reported he has had discussions with Dana and Mark regarding the building we hoped to build for FFF, so he is learning more about the grant writing and the numbers. Of concern is the storage of furnishings in Luther Hall and the second floor of the office building. Scott would like to see a long-term plan and direction for FFF.



## Youth – Renee Reis

- Renee reported sad news: The youth gathering in Minnesota this year was canceled. Renee thanked Laura for getting the refund for the registration. The youth group has raised over \$1,000 flamingo-ing. They are discussing other places of fun to attend. The youth group is not taking any more flamingo flocking orders; they have about 11 houses left to flock. Renee is receiving positive comments and feedback on this effort.

## Revisit comments and questions from the Annual Meeting:

Mark Deniston had comments about transparency about the budget. Kristi suggested we take our outreach and add it together, with the Synod giving, and see how much that amounts to. We could talk with Dana about the value of furniture items given out. Kristi will contact Dana and follow up with Laura about that.

What does the Synod do, and what have we given them in the past? Scott said the Synod issues a weekly newsletter; in the latest version, there was a link to the Bishop's report. This did not come up in the Annual Meeting, just discussing this topic now.

Candace suggested three communication points for the congregation:

- Attach committee reports to approved monthly Council Meeting Minutes.
- Pastor and President paragraphs in the weekly e-blast.
- Laura can print the weekly e-blast and Candace will address and mail to homebound members.

At the Annual Meeting, Marcia Sander said the treasurer has no vote in meetings, but Laura, as committee chair of Finance, has a vote. Laura stated she is the treasurer because she does the books and financials. The Finance Committee chair is elected, and the Finance Committee chair votes. The treasurer is appointed, therefore, the congregation does not get a say in who the treasurer is because that person is appointed, so the treasurer would not get a vote on Council.

Kristi talked about setting a plan for determining roles of Council and Pastor and how they interact, and that we should get a plan in motion. Pastor Jeremy would like Council to read the constitution to get an idea of what it says. Kristi asked that we each read the constitution and mark up any questions, and discuss at a retreat.

We should set a date for a Council retreat – retreats are traditional event planning for the year. Pastor would like us to vision and plan for the future and things we want to concentrate on, hospitality, etc., plans for our property, and where we want to be in a few years. Scott explained his corporation handles visioning in steps. Scott sees opportunities for growth for our future. He said:

- The first meeting we could get all the visions and ideas on the table, and create short- and long-term action plans, and think about some team building.
- The second meeting would be more focused on choosing several of the directions we want to go.
- The third meeting would create action plans and road maps for how we achieve those goals.

Pastor suggested we use the Fellowship Hall for our retreats. This can be on a Sunday after church and bring in lunch. We will discuss a date via email, mid to late March. (Pastor asked that we read Chapter 9 and Chapter 12 of the constitution before that retreat.)

Candace suggested we table Pastor Jeremy's evaluation until the March meeting to discuss in more detail.

Kristi asked when we last did job descriptions for employees (February 2019). She asked which items on Laura's plate are for a Council member and which are for an office administrator.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** made by Kristi Buchholz to adjourn; seconded by Sue Hertless; motion passed, and meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Date of next regular Council meeting – March 8, 2022, 7 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Candace Bradley, Council Secretary  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

### **Additional comments:**

Continuing agenda item: Research to see if Council members can be on the Executive Committee and the Mutual Ministry Committee concurrently. We will investigate and revisit next month.



# Good Shepherd Lutheran

Date: February 8, 2022

Team: Evangelism

Name: Sue Hertless

**Special Recognitions:** Laura Mott for all the hard work she put into Annual Meeting Brochure. We appreciate all that you do for us, and love you for the kindness you share with each of us that walk through the church office doors.

**Past Events/Accomplishments:** On January 20<sup>th</sup> wired \$10,000 from Good Shepherd Bank of America Account to Lutheran Synod in El Salvador. Money is to be used to sponsor 25 children in the Lutheran School at Apopa. In addition, to the regular curriculum three additional classes will be added that are not offered by the government schools: English as a second language, Christian values, and music: either singing or playing an instrument. The school year started in January and ends in November. Last year there were 40 students attending Apopa. This year we have 68 of which 25 are on the scholarship program. We are asking people to support the program by giving \$30 dollars a month or \$360 a year for one child.

Sue will meet the children and teachers when in El Salvador in March. The trip in February has been postponed until the end of March due to covid outbreak. Sue will take pictures of each of the children and teachers to share with the congregation.

**Upcoming Events/Goals:** Sue will be attending the Synod Assembly representing Sierra Pacific Synod Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as President. Additionally, she will be helping the synod as a volunteer and chauffeuring Pastor Christian round trip San Francisco to Sparks.

Will be coordinating with other churches for visits while Pastor Christian is here, plus planning for our time together.

Good Shepherd will be hosting Winter Nights on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>. We will be asking the congregation to donate their time to fixing breakfast, lunch, and /or dinner on these three dates as it is the weekend. The youth have the opportunity to come and play with the children, and adults can read stories, play with the children, or help fix meals and clean up, or sleep over to support staff should there be an emergency. We would like to ask for donations to purchase food. The CCCHealth Department has confirmed we can cook for the families.

**Long Term Goals:** Christmas Dinner for the less fortunate Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at Good Shepherd.

# Good Shepherd Lutheran

Date: 2/7/22

Team: Social Ministry

Name: Scott Etzel

## February 2022 Monthly Report

### Special Recognitions: [List of people that should be recognized for special efforts.]

Dana Deniston and the FFF volunteers – For ongoing service to the community with Friends Feeding Friends programs distributing food, clothing, and furnishings to those in need.

### Past Events/Accomplishments: [Events or accomplishments for the last month.]

FFF summary for January 2022:

- Provided food for 3441 people
- Provided furnishings for 5 households. Furnishings slowed due to a lack of available housing.
- We started distributing the Advent donations and are very grateful to our congregation for their support.
- We cancelled our shelter meal in January out of an abundance of caution. Four volunteers were exposed to Covid by their children or grandchildren who were in daycare and school or from co-workers. Since we couldn't provide a meal, we ordered food and had it shipped to the shelter to help the clients there.
- Core did not need as many food bags this month because the majority of their staff were out and quarantined after Covid exposure or out after reactions to boosters.
- FFF account balances as of December 31 are \$36,204.90 (DSP) and Building Fund \$21,821.13.

### Upcoming Events/Goals: [Events or goals for the two couple months. Include dates and any needs you may need from other teams.]

- Red Cross Blood Drive scheduled for Friday, April 15th from 1 to 6 pm. Will need Fellowship Hall.

### Long Term Goals: [Events or goals that extend beyond 2 months. Include dates.]

- FFF Building Project (dates undefined)

### Concerns: [Any concerns for the upcoming months]

- FFF: Storage of furnishings in Luther Hall and second floor of office building over capacity preventing access in the event of an emergency such as a fire or electrical issue.

### Other Comments: [Any other comments]



# Good Shepherd Lutheran

<b>Date:</b>	February, 2022
<b>Team:</b>	Youth
<b>Name:</b>	Renee Reis

**Special Recognitions:** Laura for assisting with our ELCAYG refund. Pastor Jeremy for assisting with flocking when needed.

**Past Events/Accomplishments:** Youth have raised over \$1000 dollars from the Flamingo Fundraiser!

**Upcoming Events/Goals:** Movie night, QZar Laser Tag, California's Great America.

## **Long Term Goals:**

1. Continue being welcoming and supportive of any and all youth that want to attend services and classes.
2. Plan fun/safe events for youth throughout 2022.
3. Paint and brighten up the basement hallway/bathrooms
4. Make bathrooms accessible and non-gender specific
5. Place a microwave and mini fridge downstairs for youth activities.

**Concerns:** Covid safety for everyone in attendance of events.

**Other Comments:** The ELCA Youth Gathering has been cancelled due to Covid concerns. The youth have talked about going to Great America as an alternative. Flamingo Fundraiser has brought in \$1015 at this time. We have flocked 13 out of 23 houses at this time. We are going to stop accepting flocking requests at this time, and finish the remaining 10 houses. We will use this fundraiser in the future.

## **Church Council Action Items:**

[Items that the council needs to discuss at the monthly council meeting.]