



## Council Minutes

February 19, 2025

Attendees – Renee Reis, Susan Metzger, Tracey Rentner, Rev. Jeremy Serrano, Mike Henry, Julie Kim, Maureen Tetley, Scott Etzel

Meeting call to order at 7:17p by Renee Reis

Opening Prayer by Rev. Jeremy Serrano

Recognitions: Tom for choice of hymns/music for Sunday services; Julie for worship materials

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

January Minutes - Motion made to accept minutes as presented, Motion seconded, Discussion – none, Motion carried.

Discussion: "I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church" Chapter 4 – Choosing Fun Over Drudgery

New Business

New Membership- Motion made to approve Robert Weis as a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church made by Susan Metzger, Maureen Tetley seconded, Discussion – none, Motion passed

Discussion regarding volunteer onboarding for Friends Feeding Friends (FFF) ministry. Council to have a meeting with FFF volunteers.

Review of revised COD duties for Sunday services

Income revenue stream – Discussion regarding renovation of Luther Hall apartment to be used as a rental as an additional stream of income for GSLC.

Mutual Ministry Program – Review and discussion of status of program.

Evangelism Calendar Review – Reviewed 2025 Evangelism calendar and events.

Action Register – Reminder to review what tasks are open and update register once a task is completed.

Motion made to by Rev. Jeremy Serrano to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded by Maureen Tetley. Discussion- none. Motion carried.

Meeting closed with a prayer led by Rev. Serrano.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15p.

Reports Attached: Pastor's Report, Social Ministry Report

Respectfully submitted,  
Tracey Rentner  
Council Secretary



**Date: February, 2025**

**Team: Word & Sacrament**

**Name: Rev. Serrano**

**SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:**

Julie Kim: Thank you for all the work you do in the office to prepare worship materials.

**UPCOMING WORSHIP DATES:**

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** March 5, 5:00pm.

**LENT:** During the season of lent we will have a midweek service. March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9 at 5:00pm.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** 5:00pm Worship

**GOOD FRIDAY:** 12:00pm Worship

**OTHER UPCOMING DATES:**

July 7-12: I will be on retreat.

**MONTHLY REPORT:**

1. I have met with 2 solar company's about bringing Solar to Good Shepherd. They both have our energy reports and are formulating plans.
2. I am creating a theme for Lent Wednesday night worship "Politics and The People of God."
3. I am creating a Sunday Bible Study for Lent "A History of Heaven & Hell."
4. I hosted the The Diablo Valley Conference clergy at Good Shepherd for our in person scripture study group.

**OTHER COMMENTS:** [Any other comments]

**2024-2025 GOALS:**

- I. Implement a pastoral leadership sharing between Good Shepherd and Saint John's Lutheran Church.
  - A. September 2024:
    1. Completed draft proposal for council review and proposal.
  - B. October 13:
    1. Congregation voted unanimously to approve the proposal.
  - C. November 1:
    1. I began pastoring St. John's Lutheran church in the capacity outlined in the proposal.
  - D. November: I am still getting use to this significant change in schedule. I have only heard positive things from St. John.
- II. Lead the church council through a study of the book; I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church by Paul Nixon

- A. September 2024:
  - 1. Books passed out to Church Council.
  - 2. Weekly email sent to Church Council with reminder to read and discussion question.
- B. October 2024
  - 1. Weekly email sent to Church Council with reminder to read and discussion questions.
  - 2. Spoke about the Intro in our October council meeting.
- C. November:
  - 1. I sent out emails during the weeks I was in town,
  - 2. Spoke about Chapter 1 at our November meeting.
- D. December:
  - 1. I sent out one email in-between council meetings.
  - 2. Spoke about Chapter 2 at our December meeting.
- E. January:
  - 1. I sent out 2 emails in-between council meetings.
  - 2. Spoke about Chapter 3 in our January meeting.
- III. Complete a religious fundraising project and obtain educational competency certification in the topic
  - A. September 2024:
    - 1. Presented proposal to the church council and had it approved on Sept 11, 2024.
    - 2. Received from Dana a list of necessary improvements to Room 3.
      - a) Empty room and remove cabinets and counters.
      - b) Remove carpets. I think last time, the flooring contractor we used ( C G Interiors, Laura Estrella, cell (925)381-7582, email lestrella.cginteriors@gmail.com) removed and disposed of the carpet.
      - c) Hire contractor for Asbestos abatement to remove floor tiles. (ERI Environmental Remedies, Inc., 22390 Thunderbird Place, Hayward, CA 94545, office (925)461-3285. Estimator in 2019 was William Arias, cell (925)519-0548, email william@env-rem.com. Previous cost for Room 1 was \$2410.63.
      - d) Lay flooring.
      - e) Install double pane windows.
      - f) Change locks on 2 doors.
      - g) Paint if needed. Add window covering if needed.
  - B. October 2024:
    - 1. Spoke with Mike Henry about getting quotes to understand how much money we need to raise.
  - C. November:

1. Mike Henry has spoken to some contractors about getting bids for the work. We agreed that we would need to wait till after the new year to make any meaningful progress on this.
- D. January:
  1. Connect with Mike Henry. he is in the process of getting bids on the work that needs to be done. When we have the amounts it will cost, we can develop a total amount for the capital campaign.
- IV. FFF: Implement an open and welcoming volunteer culture including a volunteer onboarding system.
- V. Shepherd a volunteer Care Ministry Team
  - A. September 2024:
    1. Developed Care Ministry Expectations/Procedure Document.
    2. Created advertisement in email for team member sign-up
    3. Announced at Sunday worship need for team members.
  - B. September-December:
    1. Advertised Care Team to the congregation
  - C. December:
    1. Began working on a class for for care team volunteers
      - a) Class Dates; February 2, 9, 16, 23.
  - D. January-February
    - a) I could not coordinate getting the team together after worship.
      - (1) I am pivoting to doing a 2 meeting training in a members home. I am working with Elsie Witt and Sue Hertless to coordinate a time.
- VI. Shepherd a volunteer Assisting Minister role and team
  - A. September 2024:
    1. Created advertisement in email for team member sign-up
    2. Announced at Sunday worship need for team members.
  - B. October 2024:
    1. Met with Susan Metzger to discuss AM roles in worship.
  - C. November-December
    1. Gathered list of Team Members
      - a) Susan Metzger
      - b) Sue Hertless
      - c) Renee Reis
      - d) Elsie Witt
      - e) Maureen Tetley
  - D. December 8: Trained Assisting Ministers after worship.
  - E. December
    1. Every Team Member has had a chance to serve in worship.
  - F. January:

1. Team continues to assist in worship and are getting more comfortable



**Date: 2/11/2025**

**Team: Social Ministry**

**Name: Scott Etzel**

## **SOCIAL MINISTRY REPORT (February 2025)**

### **SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:**

Susan Metzger for continuing to drive church members to/from services and events, despite having her car rear-ended on Sunday morning, February 9th.

Julie Kim for their efforts with fellowship time after Sunday services, despite having her car totaled in an accident on a Sunday morning some time back.

Renee Reiss for her many talents and volunteer efforts to keep Good Shepherd running, despite commuting to work full-time at a job in Berkeley!

### **PAST EVENTS/ ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

#### **Friends Feeding Friends (FFF) summary for January 2025**

In January, FFF provided food for 4,608 people. And, we are back to distributing out of the hall where there's more room so we can offer more variety!! Some days are busier than others, and rain keeps some people away. As of this writing, today alone we provided food for over 150 people.

We had our annual food bank inspection where staff checked our storage, refrigerator and freezer temperatures, and reviewed our pantry process and flow. They said our pantry is peaceful and they seemed to like that we don't rush people, particularly the seniors. They said some pantries are crazy and chaotic, but not ours. In February, we will likely have a drop in inspection from Environmental Health before our permit is renewed.

Sharing the great news, after weeks of application preparation, and months of committee review, and approval by the California Attorney General, FFF was one of over 60 nonprofit applicants nationwide that was awarded a grant from Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church in Newark. This ELCA church closed their doors and decided to grant their remaining funds to places where it could help the community. We are blessed, and now we can be even more of a blessing to others!!!

- Current church financial liabilities designated for FFF in Balance Sheet are:
  - \$10,054.56 – FFF Building Fund (as of November 30, 2024)
  - \$25,354.07 – FFF Fund (as of December 31, 2024)
  - \$4,602.48 - FFF Debit Card (8614) balance (as of November 30, 2024)

#### **Senior Food Program**

GSLC partnered with the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties to provide free groceries to seniors age 55 or older twice in January (2nd and 16th).

#### **Holding Hands Montessori Preschool**

- The preschool team added a doorway between the classroom and children's bathroom.

### **PAST EVENTS/ ACCOMPLISHMENTS: (Continued)**

**Date: 2/11/2025**

**Team: Social Ministry**

**Name: Scott Etzel**

**American Red Cross Blood Drives**

Dates of American Red Cross Blood Drives at Good Shepherd in 2024 to date are as follows;

- Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> (23 donations)
- Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> (28 donations)
- Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup> (26 donations)
- Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> (22 donations)

**Diablo Valley Literacy Council (DVLC)**

- No update.

**UPCOMING EVENTS/GOALS:**

**American Red Cross Blood Drives**

Future dates of American Red Cross Blood Drives at Good Shepherd in 2025 are planned as follows;

- Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>
- ~~Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>~~ (Cancelled due to scheduling conflict with Senior Food Distribution)
- Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

**LONG TERM GOALS:** [Events or goals that extend beyond 2 months. Include dates.]

- Five blood drives planned for 2025 (see dates above)

**CONCERNS:** [Any concerns for the upcoming months]

- FFF: Storage of household goods and furnishings in Luther Hall, and in some rooms on second floor of office building over capacity restricting access in the event of an emergency such as a fire or electrical issue. Note: Significant progress was made in clearing access lanes in the main room on second floor of office building in Spring of 2022.

**OTHER COMMENTS:** [Any other comments]

- Fire extinguishers (13 total) were inspected (monthly inspection) in October (10/2), November (11/6), and December (12/18). Two were found to not be mounted on a wall. One was found to be partially discharged (repaired Wednesday, October 2nd) but then failed due to low pressure on November 6th (possibly defective). That extinguisher is a spare and is planned for replacement in 2025.

**COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS:**

- None.