

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Council Minutes

March 16, 2021

Present: Keith Casey, Craig Dreger, Tom Dunham, Pastor Koepsell, Sharon Leinweber, Chad Smith, Julie Toll, Matt Toll, Krista Weiss, Dan Weiss, Nicole Schroeder, Jennifer Charles and Leslie Mason.

President Casey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Meeting was opened with the video devotion from Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Council meeting minutes from Feb council meeting approved with corrections.

- a) Correct Krista Weiss title
- b) Reflect detailed discussion on the duties of the Administrative Assistant
- c) Correct Mary Becker's name. She will be starting a LWML chapter at Good Shepherd.

Board reports reviewed M/S/A

Pastor's Report: There will be 3 services for Easter Sunday (6:30 am, 8 am, and 10:30am)

Pastor asked if there should be a sign up for these services.

Discussion: It was agreed that the congregation should signup but if they were unable or the numbers in their party change they should attend anyway. The Elders will work with the congregation to ensure distancing. No one will be turned away.

New Business

Evangelism Board: Nicole Schroeder: The Winnebago Health Department is looking at having wellness programs and should Good Shepherd be a site? Each class is 2 hours long and runs for 7 weeks.

Discussion: This would be a good way to use our facility as an outreach center if the classes do not interfere with programs already scheduled.

Krista Weiss offered to assist in opening the facility if classes were held after office hours.

Nicole will continue to work with the Health Department once it is determined if classes can be held. It was agreed that this would be a good use of our facility if there were no conflicts.

Pastor: Oshkosh Water fest committee will be having a meeting March 23 to determine if they will be moving forward this year. This would be a good activity for Nicole to look at. Fred

Kirchenwitz would be a good contact for assistance and to understand how we have participated in the past. It was agreed that this would be a good activity to be involved in if we can get 40 people to participate during Covid.

Dan Weiss: Had an opportunity to work with the Confirmation Class and expressed concern on the students' preparedness for confirmation. This is not a concern with Pastors teaching but the overall understanding the students have of their faith. Dan proposed that the leadership look at the requirements to be confirmed and what we as the church should do to better prepare our students for confirmation and their long term involvement in the Church.

Discussion: After lengthy discussion it was decided that an in-depth look was needed by the entire leadership on this and the overall direction our Leadership should take on supporting the mission of the church. A retreat was recommended to provide focused time to discuss this and other topics. Dan Weiss will look at venues and timing for this retreat and report back.

Discussion topics included

- Develop a standard to successfully complete confirmation class
- How families should be involved with confirmands
- Improved retention of youth after confirmation
- Review curriculum for confirmands and youth
- Involve all boards in the mission of training our youth

Chad Smith: Pastors pay

Pastor has not been paid per his contract since he was hired. At the time of hiring it was agreed to pay Pastor a premium of \$7,000 per year since he was not taking the Concordia insurance package. The additional cost of the premium would be divided between Missions and debt reduction. Also, Pastor is not being paid according to the Synod's pay schedule. This was not discovered until recently since Pastor does not receive a regular paper pay stub. At this time Pastor has been under paid. To correct this Diane will adjust pay beginning April 1, 2021. This will need to be on the agenda for the next Voters meeting to make the congregation aware and reflect the change in the budget.

Motion M/S/A to adjourn at 8:06 pm passed

Pastor Koepsell closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Mason, Recording Secretary

