

**Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes – June 6, 2024**

*Called into community, gifted to serve.
Glorifying God through love in action.*

Present: Pastor Aileen Robbins, Jeff Gerstenberger, Laurie Simonson, Sheri Treadwell, Amy Trichanh, Paul Williams, Mark Sutliff, Jim Hartmann, Andy Mitchell, Brianna Dauphinee. Julie Gerstenberger was present for the financial reports. We met via Zoom.

Pastor Aileen asked if anyone had anything to share which is a nice way to check in with all of us.

Devotions and Opening Prayer – Jim led interactive devotions based on John the Baptist and symbols that provided thoughtful consideration. He opened our meeting in prayer.

Pastor Aileen led the meeting.

Agenda Review – No additions made.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – April 11 minutes were approved. Still need the February 4 and 8th, and May 9 minutes.

Financial Reports / Ministry Team Financial Extended Report – Andy's agenda was in three parts: Initial Impressions, Goals and Q & A.

Andy thanked the entire finance team for productive meetings and the help in training him for his new role. Andy felt we were in a good position moving forward.

Goals: based on finance team input: Provide on time reports. The Finance team will meet twice a year. Planning for an earlier start to annual budgeting in October. Collaborate and review with the committee and with any interested people so we are in better alignment with the congregation. Clearly report to the congregation. The finance team has improved the process for the Designated Funds for the food ministry and Angel Tree. We will move to simpler reports while remaining compliant with law. Another goal is to open lines of communication regarding where funds come from and where they are spent.

2024 will be a year of transition for both the Finance and Treasurer roles and clarifying who is doing what.

We have 2 CD's that mature in July. We'll need to investigate what our options are. We need to report to the congregation how we invest our cash as part of our transparency.

Andy presented the financial reports: Consolidated Balance Sheet for May 2024, Income and Expense Statement, and Account Activity. We reviewed the documents and there were no questions after his explanation.

Julie left the meeting after the Financial Report and Financial Ministry Team extended report.

Other Business

- Synod Assembly Report – Rhonda Eastland, Shelly Knapp attended the Synod Assembly and represented the congregation. Pastor Hans also attended. No formal reports are available yet. Adaptive Leadership was a topic. Identity issues, campus demonstrations were others. There are documents on the Synod website regarding the sessions.

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- Adult Faith Formation ministry leader – Andy moved from Adult Faith Formation to Finance. We need a new Adult Faith Formation ministry leader. Pastor Aileen will make some calls, inviting someone to join the council. We will need someone with a passion for teaching, learning and able to create an engaging program. We made some suggestions to Pastor Aileen. The council has the ability to appoint now and have the congregation election in January.
- Web site updates – no update. Pastor will talk to Katherine Loader about joining the web site team.

Next Meeting

Council Meeting – July 25, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Devotions & prayer – Amy

Extended Ministry Report – none for July meeting

Closing Prayer – Jim closed our meeting with prayer.

Submitted by Laurie Simonson