



**Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose**  
**Church Council**  
Tuesday June 19, 2018 at 4 p.m.  
Youth Kitchen  
**MINUTES**

*SHARING JESUS CHRIST WITH ALL PEOPLE*

**1. Welcome and Opening**

President Odell Olson called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

**Present:** President Odell Olson, Secretary Jonathan Hawkins, Treasurer Ivar Saugen, Pastor Calvin Skriver, Pastor Bev Swanson, Learning Liaison Donny Loewen, Support Liaison David Larson, Witnessing Liaison Carolyn Andersen and Worship Liaison Darlene Dahle.

**Regrets:** Vice President Gail Stolee, and Service Liaison Chris Hohm

- a. Devotions:** Odell Olson opened with devotions, starting with a discussion of the complexity of ethical and moral issues in modern society, noting medical assisted dying debates as an example. Richard Rohr's daily consideration from Sunday June 17 'A View from the Bottom', noted that historically, most people 'viewed from the bottom', but in the present, many in the northern hemisphere take a 'view from the top' even if they aren't actually at the top. Far too often, the Church has allowed itself to be co-opted into the view from the top, when Christ and the Church originated on the bottom. Luther's comment on the Seventh Commandment in his small catechism stands in stark contrast to the Catholic Church's view of Luther's time in justifying conquest, slavery, and taking of the property of 'non-Christians'.

-Council members discussed their own recent encounters with moral dilemmas. Odell finished by opening the meeting in prayer.

**2. Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda**

- the agenda was adopted by **Consensus** of the meeting.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**a. Council Meeting May 15, 2018:**

- **M/S/C** to accept minutes as submitted. It was noted that the approval of the Worship Committee terms of reference at May Council actually affects a Bylaw, so it will need to come to the next AGM for final approval. As other Committees report back on their terms of reference, all proposed changes can be presented together.

**4. Forward Planning and Opportunities**

**a. Time and date of Council Meetings, Devotions list:**

- 4:00 does not work well for Chris. Proposal is to try third Tuesdays of the month at 5:00 p.m. Devotions have rotated between Council members in the past – send preferred choice of months to Odell or Jonathan (no meetings in July, Aug, Dec, and June is done - see initially responses in Appendix below).

**b. Follow-up to the AGM:**

**i. Fall Planning Meeting:**

- once this involved all committee members, but attendance kept decreasing, so last couple years involved a more social gathering with Council and the Chair or a representative from each Committee, for devotions and 'blue-sky' visioning for the year ahead. **ACTION:** Odell and Jonathan will send an invitation to Committees, including a summary of what occurred last year and what the expectations are for this year's meeting, including seeking input on outcomes arising from last year, and encouragement to begin to look ahead to this year. -the suggestion was made to send invitation to Committees in September for them to consider at their meetings, and then hold the Fall Planning meeting on

the evening of Sunday September 30. Calvin and Bev will provide a devotional opening.

-Dave tentatively offered to host again this year, subject to final confirmation.

**ii. Stewardship:**

- Council determined to reconsider this topic in the Fall. It was noted that Stewardship is not solely about money and fundraising. Council were asked to consider people who could be approached who would do well considering the entire picture around stewardship, and what the terms of reference for a Stewardship group might look like.

**c. Business arising from the minutes:**

**i. Governance Manual Review:**

-Minutes are now on the web site; last 5 AGM documents will be listed there. Council discussed whether or not to keep including movers and seconders of motions. **Consensus** is that Council Minutes will no longer include names of movers and seconders of motions.

**ii. Funds:**

**-M/S/C** to transfer \$75000 from the current account and place it in a non-redeemable GIC for one year.

**1. Miscellaneous fund – what is in it?**

- several funds previously placed in here have now been redirected to the appropriate accounts.

**2. Major Projects Fund – update on function**

-all capital and major projects are now in one fund. People wishing to direct money to this purpose will indicate that at the time of donation.

**3. Notifying donors about “Messiah Fund Policy”:**

**-ACTION:** Ivar will create a brief description about how funds exceeding a particular request will be redirected to other needs – this description will be inserted in the Messenger twice a year, and every time there is a major project initiated.

**iii. “Spending Authorization Policies” regarding financial controls and policies:**

**-ACTION:** Ivar will bring further recommendations in the fall.

**iv. Ad hoc budget group:**

-there is one volunteer so far – Don Rebus. **ACTION:** Ivar will work on finding another person to serve with this group.

**v. Contract reviews:**

-no further action needed.

**vi. Changes to Support, Senior Pastor, Bookkeeper job duties:**

**-ACTION:** Pastor Calvin and Ivar will continue to review this.

**vii. Committee Terms of Reference Review:**

- **ACTION:** Odell will add a reminder about this task to the letter going to Committees about the Fall Planning Meeting. Chairs will also be asked to find out if committee members want paper copies of their Committee’s sections of the Bylaws, or if reference to the material on the web site is sufficient.

**viii. Pastoral Evaluation and priorities for the upcoming year:**

- Odell is seeking input on how we evaluate the pastors and provide suggestions for their priorities in the coming year. **ACTION:** Odell will request that Gail and Carolyn develop a Messiah document/form for guiding this review and a discussion with the pastors by the end of October. Council requests a summary of the final document for information.

**ix. Insurance Claim Update:**

-no further updates.

## 5. Correspondence

-no additional correspondence to report.

## 6. Status of our ministries

### a. Pastor Calvin Skriver/Pastor Bev Swanson

#### i. Pastor Calvin's Report: spoke to his report and responded to questions.

- Discussions have occurred regarding Tova taking over custodial services for the summer, for approximately 10 hours/week. **M/S/C** to authorize Calvin to conclude an agreement to hire Tova to provide custodial services over the summer during Lloyd and Carolyn's absence.

- Calvin has also been in discussions with Doreen and Lorie about shifting responsibilities in the office as Doreen desires to work 3 days a week and exploring the possibility of Lori working 2 days a week. There are still a number of details to be coordinated, including how benefits would work. Lori will also be taking over the Messenger after June. **ACTION:** Ivar, Sheila and Calvin will gather information and send it to the Executive for further consideration of new arrangements for office staffing.

#### ii. Pastor Bev's Report: spoke to her report and responded to questions.

-there was an incident recently which led to the suggestion that Messiah have a portable defibrillator on site for emergency/First Aid purposes. **ACTION:** Worship has made some inquiries – Odell will look into possible suppliers.

## 7. Standing Committees

### a. Learning – Donny Loewen

#### i. Minutes of Meetings

- none submitted.

### b. Service – Chris Hohm

#### i. Minutes of Meetings

- none submitted.

### c. Support – Dave Larson

#### i. Minutes of Meetings

- none submitted. The chair company still doesn't have fabric for the new basement chairs, but still hopes to make delivery soon after July 12. There is also a small cemetery south of Camrose that falls under Messiah's purview – Support has dealt with current concerns. **ACTION:** Ivar will explore Messiah's connections and responsibilities for this.

### d. Witnessing – Carolyn Andersen

#### i. Minutes of Meetings

- none submitted. The photo directories have arrived. Calvin provided an update on the new refugee family that has arrived. Their focus is to hope to move to Edmonton soon. They have good resources and seem likely to acclimatize fairly quickly.

#### ii. World Mission Report of May 15, 2018:

-the report was received with no questions.

### e. Worship – Darlene Dahle

#### i. Minutes of Meetings

- none submitted.

## 8. Finances

### a. Financial Statements

-the May financial statement was distributed and Ivar spoke to the numbers. Noted that 'Capital projects' under Designated should now be 'Major projects'.

## 9. Other Business

**a. Changes to Section D, General Policies – Wedding Policy:**

-M/S/C to accept the recommended changes, with the amendment to remove the second sentence in the second paragraph under item 7 “The wedding will not be considered to be booked unless this deposit has been received.”

**b. Changes to Section I, Service – Good Samaritan Fund:**

-M/S/C to approve proposed changes to Good Samaritan Policy, with recommended change – put the ‘s’ after ‘Pastors’ in item 3 and item 5 in brackets – ‘Pastor(s)’. These changes reflect what is generally already happening.

**c. Changes to Section J, Support – Counters:**

-M/S/C to approve proposed changes to Counters Policy, which reflects current practice.

**d. Motion for Executive to handle issues until September:**

-M/S/C that the Executive be empowered to deal with any issues that arise over the summer prior to the next Council meeting in September.

**10. Next Meeting:**

- a. Regular Council Meeting September, 2018
- b. Devotions: Darlene

**11. Closing Prayer and Adjournment:** Odell adjourned the meeting at 6:47 p.m., and we prayed the Lord’s Prayer together.

**APPENDIX: Devotional Responses**

<b>September:</b>	Darlene Dahle	<b>February:</b>	Jonathan Hawkins
<b>October:</b>	Donny Loewen	<b>March:</b>	Dave Larson
<b>November:</b>	Carolyn Andersen	<b>April:</b>	Ivar Saugen
<b>January:</b>	<i>unclaimed</i>	<b>May:</b>	<i>unclaimed</i>