



# Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose

## Church Council

Tuesday February 18, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Fellowship Centre

## Minutes

*SHARING JESUS CHRIST WITH ALL PEOPLE*

Present: Odell Olson, Ivar Saugen, Gail Stolee Members-at-large: Carolyn Andersen, Dave Larson, Chris Hohm, Donny Loewen, Pr. Calvin Skriver, Pr. Bev Swanson Unable to attend: Charlene Brown, Darlene Dahle

### 1. Welcome and Opening

a. **Devotions:** Odell read an article from the CLBI Crossroads newsletter that posed the age-old questions "Who Am I? What is my purpose? God works through us in the ordinariness of life, but often we want more - some kind of special direction, when ours is simply to live where we are and serve where we are.

### 2. Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda

**MSC** that the agenda be adopted with the addition of a request from MLW to be discussed as 9.b.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

a. **MSC** that the minutes of the Council Meeting of January 21, 2020 be adopted as printed.

### 4. Forward Planning and Opportunities

a. Messiah and surrounding rural area congregations – Pr. Calvin reported that the March 10 event in Bawlf will begin with a potluck at 6. Pastors will encourage our members to attend.

b. Administrative Assistant succession – See Pr. Calvin's printed report in the February Council package. The question was raised about whether this could be a volunteer position.

c. Front Sign - Donny submitted a quotation for \$2326.80 from Camsign for refurbishing the sign. No action at this time.

d. Flourishing Congregations Survey - Chris reported some major findings:

1. 15.5% of the respondents have been attending for 5 years or less.
  2. 69.7% of respondents feel the congregation is flourishing
  3. 88.5% of respondents agree or strongly agree they have a strong degree of confidence in leadership of the congregation
  4. Throughout there was strong support for the music and worship ministry
  5. Of respondents 62.7% were 60+ years old, 90.6% were 50+ years old.
- Chris has asked if it would be possible to factor out the responses of the respondents under 50 years old. Chris will distribute e-copies of the report to Council. He will work on convening a small group to discuss the report and how to share it with the congregation.

e. Nominating Committee - Charlene No report

f. Budget Committee - Ivar reported that one individual has agreed to serve on the budget committee.

g. Neighbour Aid - Odell has volunteered to serve on the board. Pr Calvin will provide the required reference letter.

## **5. Correspondence**

a. LTS Congregational Appeal - The MLW has sent a contribution. The budget committee will be made aware of this request.

b. ELFEC (Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada) This will be considered at the special meeting on finances. Informational materials were made available.

## **6. Status of our ministries**

a. Pastor Calvin Skriver/Pastor Bev Swanson

i. Pastor Calvin's Report - See printed report.

ii. Pastor Bev's Report - See printed report Pr Bev requested clarification about insurance and age/qualifications of drivers for events. Odell will research policy.

## **7. Standing Committees**

a. **Learning** – Donny Loewen No minutes

b. **Service** – Chris Hohm See printed report

c. **Support** – Dave Larson reported that a snowblower has been donated. All rejoiced. The roof over the north entrance will definitely need fixing.

d. **Witnessing** – Carolyn Andersen See printed report. A request from the Missions Group was discussed and sent back to the Witnessing Committee and World Mission Group for further clarification.

e. **Worship** – Darlene Dahle No report

## **8. Finances**

a. Financial Statements - See printed report. Ivar presented options for investing to be discussed at a later meeting. Council will make a recommendation to the AGM in 2021.

Council decided to hold a special meeting Tuesday, March 3 at 7 pm to discuss our financial position, and ELFEC as an investment choice. Members of the budget committee will be invited. Calvin and Ivar will prepare a presentation and others are invited to send specific questions to Ivar.

## **9. Other Business**

a. Benefit Plan Changes - Odell prepared a summary. The plan continues to be a work in progress. Pr Calvin noted that all members would experience a drop in benefits. This is not a problem unique to the church, but the question was raised as to whether we want to follow the common practice, or do we want to do better.

b. MLW requests were referred to Support committee.

## **10. Next Meeting:**

a. Regular Council Meeting - March 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

b. Devotions: Carolyn

## **11. Closing Prayer and Adjournment**

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 9:10 p.m.