



Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose
Church Council
Thursday, February 18, 7:00 PM
Via Zoom
MINUTES

SHARING JESUS CHRIST WITH ALL PEOPLE

Present: Charlene Brown, David Dahle, Chris Hohm, Carolyn Andersen, Dave Larson, Donny Loewen, Lael Olson, Gail Stolee, Pastor Calvin Skriver, Pastor Bev Swanson

1. Welcome and Opening
Lael led a devotion reminding us that in the wilderness of these Covid times, we can trust that God is with us.

2. **MSC** to hold meeting via Zoom

3. **MSC** to adopt the agenda as circulated.

4. **MSC** to approve the minutes of January 20, 2021 as printed.

5. Status of our Ministries

i. The President reported that the Synod Convention will be held via Zoom on July 17, 2021. Registration will open on line March 1, deadline May 15, 2021. Pastor Calvin will clarify the number of delegates Messiah may have in addition to its one youth delegate (16-22 years), for this as well as for the National Convention in 2022.

Strategy for recruiting delegate(s): 1. Announcement inviting volunteers on Feb. 21, 2. Notice in Council Highlights for February, 3. Pastor Calvin will put notice in Messenger, 4. The Secretary will call a list of people suggested at the meeting as a start.

Our arrangements for an online AGM are in line with the Guidelines received from the Synod.

Staff consultations/reviews are ongoing and feedback is being provided to the individuals concerned. Once that process is complete, job descriptions will be addressed.

ii. Pastor Calvin noted that he is reviewing some of our policies related to our various funds and requested feedback. The main topic of discussion was how to understand, differentiate, and co-ordinate designated funds and the general budget. This also impacts how committees address their budgets. Pastor Calvin, the Treasurer and the Bookkeeper will work on this and would welcome comments from Council.

Messiah has learned that we will be receiving a significant bequest. Pastor Calvin will clarify the intent of the donor with the executors of the estate.

It appears that the arrival of some refugees may be imminent. There are no details yet.

Discussions are set to take place April 13 and May 25, 2021 amongst clergy and Councils in this area into ways we might begin to collaborate and share our resources.

Several models have been suggested for discussion purposes including 1) hub and wheel, 2) congregations working together and contributing financially according to membership 3) one parish employs staff and others contract with them, 4) closures and consolidations.

Pastor Bev highlighted how well technology, especially Zoom, is working to keep people connected and social and learning opportunities available.

iii. The Treasurer submitted a written report. It indicated a current year to date deficit of \$15,000.

iv. Standing Committees

1. Learning Committee reported that approximately 13 people are participating in the second Alpha program. Agreed by consensus that Learning Committee is authorized to contribute \$200 from its budget to Alpha.

2. Service Committee - See written report

3. Support Committee reported that it has concluded a contract as of April 1 for inspection of the elevator at about half the previous cost, based on the low usage the elevator receives. They now believe, through a process of elimination, that the problem with our broadcast system lies in faulty repairs or replacement parts to the tricaster.

4. Witnessing Committee asked for a clearer system for understanding their budget position. This concern was echoed by the other committees and will be passed on to the Treasurer and Bookkeeper to work on.

5. Worship Committee - See written report

6. Agreed that we will not re-open for in-person worship until at least March 22. A decision regarding Easter services will need to be made in March.
7. The Council as a whole will meet on March 11 at 7pm and devote as much as possible of its March 18 meeting to preparing the budget. In order for Council to prepare as much as possible in advance, Pastor Calvin will assemble salary data, the Treasurer will provide a year-to-date report, and Charlene will collect the committee budgets.
8. **MSC** that Council adjourn for an in-camera session.
9. Special budget meeting: March 11 at 7pm (Zoom)
Next regular meeting: March 18 at 7 pm. (Zoom)
10. Closing Prayer and Adjournment