

**Lutheran Church of the Cross**  
"Making Jesus Known by Sharing Our Gifts"  
Council Meeting Minutes  
January 12, 2021

**Call to Order** by President Krisi (6:30pm)

**Attendance:** Pastor Lisa, Deacon Janie, Kylie Blanchard, Ron Borth, Jon Hanson, Krisi Kunz, Mark Kunze, Heather Martin, Connie Werner, Art Wheeler

**Devotions:** Pastor Lisa led in prayer that covered individual concerns during this difficult time

**Approval of October and November Minutes**  
**Kylie B motion/Mark K second/APPROVED**

**Treasurer's Report: (Respectfully submitted by Art Wheeler)**

1. All bills and statements as of December 31 have been paid.
2. All December bank statements have been reconciled and registries are correct.
3. Total adjusted income for December was \$72,252.40 (that number is correct). LCC received in excess of \$44,000 in charitable gifts and larger once-a-year contributions. Income was \$35,375 above the budget goal of \$36,878. We have a very generous congregation.
4. The adjusted December expenses were \$31,174.40. We had a net gain of \$41,078.44. The expenses were adjusted to compensate for the Replacement Media expenses and Promissory Note interest, both part of QuickBooks accounting.
5. For December, I did include a Budget vs Actual review (pg 7-9). I have also included in the report a full Budget vs Actual review for the year of 2020 (pg 10-12). Expenses are all in a reasonable range. Total 2020 adjusted income was about \$44K less than the 2020 budget. But, because the total expenses were held within the total contributions, the church realized a total net gain of \$40,169.20 for the year. That is very good.
6. The contribution to the Western North Dakota Synod for December will be \$2,865. We will have contributed \$21,599 this year towards the annual goal of \$25,000. I did make the WND Synod December contribution on Dec 30, to include in this years' budget.  
**Heather M motion/Jon H second/APPROVED**
7. The Auditor's 2020 Report was reviewed by the council and a motion to accept was made by Jon H, second by Ron B and APPROVED.

**Pastor's Report**

1. Faith in Money
2. Last of the Advent season and Christmas

3. Concordia College and Bishop Schweitzer's Christmas message were streamed
4. Connie has surgery on her knee, she is home and recovering. Pastor will order flowers from the council.
5. AJ Marx wrote the sermon that was read by Pastor Lisa, last Sun Jan 3
6. Text Studies continue
7. Lent begins Feb 17, Ash Wednesday
8. Living Lord's Supper as part of Lent, Maundy Thursday, as well as 1<sup>st</sup> Communion

### **Deacon's Report**

1. Spring Church school and confirmation started this week - I am having a little trouble with having teachers sign up to teach on both Sunday and Wednesday, but I think we will be okay.
2. 3rd grade bible class is happening this week. 3rd graders will receive their bibles on Jan. 24th and Jan 27th during worship.
3. I have been attending text study, especially on the weeks that I preach
4. I attended the synod virtual meeting on how to run a zoom Annual Meeting on January 4th. - I will need help with tech stuff. At least 3 other people.
5. I had my monthly Bismarck/Mandan youth workers meeting we discussed an all-church Palm Sunday activity and started to touch on VBS
6. I am attending a continuing education conference, the ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza February 4th-6th, it is an all-virtual event.
7. I am helping lead FPU Sundays at 6pm February 21st through April 25th.
8. 1st communion class is set for March 7th and 28th for Sunday kids, and March 17th and 24th for Wednesday kids. 1st communion will be received April 1st at 7pm. We will communion this years' 3rd graders and 4th graders (makeup from last year)
9. I am working with Sally Grenz for the Valentine's day cards the church school kids make to send to our shut ins.
10. The photo scavenger hunt is going well - I have had great feedback.
11. Christmas program went really well - Heard lots of great feedback.
12. I am working on building the education team. I have messages out to some members to see if they would like to join the team. So far I have a yes from Marin Traynor and a maybe from Tom Harris. Other people contacted have been Janet Basthingwaite and Baron Blanchard.

### **Old Business**

1. Council member nominations have been received – Kari Harris to complete the 2 yr (Scott Sommers), Cherie Krueger and Mike Geirmann will serve 3 yrs
2. Annual meeting plans (discussed earlier)

## **New Business**

1. Discussion of janitorial service (email from Janie)
  - a. More detailed list, by room
  - b. Review contract on an annual basis
  - c. Jon H stated that for what they are paid and having witnessed their work, they are doing a more than adequate job.
2. Jon H asked for use of the church on Jan 30 for a Men's Retreat, an annual event normally held at CCM. Pastor Janis Sloka (CCM) will lead the activities.
3. Pastor Lisa suggested that since the church has a surplus of funds, that we fulfill our obligation of \$25K to WND Synod ELCA (budgeted line item). This would be an additional \$3,401.45 donation.

### **Jon H motion/Heather M second/APPROVED**

4. Mark K brought forward a question from a member – Is there a contingency plan for a church lockdown?
  - a. This needs to be addressed by the Safety & Security Working Group, established in October 2019
5. Information was received on the second Federal Stimulus package and PPP Loan, but guidelines are not finalized and not accepting loans at the time of this meeting.

### **FOLLOW UP SINCE THE MEETING:**

- a. On Jan 15, an email was distributed to council members, highlighting the details of the PPP Loan process and timeline.
  - b. President Krisi asked for a vote on whether or not LCC should apply for the second PPP Loan. The electronic vote was taken and approved 4-2.
  - c. Art will move forward with the application process.
6. Motion to approve the revised 2021 budget  
**Krisi K motion/Mark K second/APPROVED**
  7. On December 22, Pastor Lisa received a call from Mark Thompson. On behalf of Claudia and their family, they would like to donate/gift the installation of the new virus killing air filtration systems in the church furnaces. A quick survey of the council was taken and of course, we were very appreciative of this gift, as it will greatly enhance the church and pre-school. Thank you to the Thompson family!

## **Next Meeting**

1. Annual Meeting – January 24, council organizational meeting immediately after the Annual meeting
2. Regularly scheduled meeting – February 9, 6:30 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm, followed by the Lord's Prayer

Thank you for what you do for Lutheran Church of the Cross!