

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

## Board of Trustees Meeting

### January 16, 2024

In attendance: John Ashton, Vanessa Gonzalez, Ruth Hanzlik, Doug Johnson, Yvonne Krause, Larry Larson, Larry Miller, Mike Platz via phone, Pr. Jeff Tally, Jennifer Wollesen

Absent: None

Guests: Doug Tapking, Edd & Carla Johnson, Kim Russell, Glenn & Dixie Breitling, Bob Scott, Chris Knoch

The meeting was opened by Larry Miller previous VP at 6:00 PM. Pastor Jeff offered the opening prayer and devotion (Psalm 85:7-13). A quorum was present.

The Financial Report was given by Mike via phone. Through November we actually were -\$122,951 for the year, although the money back from the government for Payroll taxes (\$142,000), was still keeping us positive.

We had our usual large giving in December of \$90,050 of total offerings which gave us a Net positive \$39,000 for December, which brought our year-to-date deficit back down to only -\$83,908 at the end of the year. With the \$142,000 one-time government refund, we were still positive overall for the year at \$58,647

We did end the year with a continued strong excess cash balance in our account. Note that we are beginning to receive money for the Milestone House project so that account has increased by \$18,000 from recent donations.

As a reminder, we approved a budget with a \$37,000 deficit built into it, and we will incur some final large boiler expenses in January so we should expect our cash balance to go down throughout the year, before rebounding again next December.

Mike asked a question about the Milestone houses as to what account the money should be put into. Pr. Jeff and Mike will work this out.

Spirit of Titus – Mike is working on how the program runs and what names need to be changed and how we can access the funds. He will report next month.

Nominations for President and Vice-President were given. A motion by John and seconded by Vanessa to elect Yvonne as President and Larry as Vice-President. Motion carried. President Yvonne Krause was elected President and Larry Larson was elected Vice-President. Yvonne then facilitated the rest of the meeting.

Yvonne motioned and Larry seconded to approve the October 2023 minutes as presented and the November Congregational minutes as corrected. Motion carried. Pr Jeff will follow up on getting the minutes posted on the web and how to access them.

Old Business – Doug Tapking's letter – See attached – The board stated that a survey would be given to the congregation asking if the congregation wants to explore hiring a second Pastor. The will address the 2<sup>nd</sup> pastor position after the Youth and Family Minister gets settled in. (Refer to Nov. 5, 2023 Annual Meeting of the Congregation.) An update on the Youth Minister will also be given at that time. A question came up about drinks in the Sanctuary. We will put lids out next to the coffee

cups and post a sign that asked people to please use a lid for their coffee. Mike is working on an explanation of the church's funds and how they are used. The Volunteer Coordinator was not funded for this year. The board hopes that members will increase their volunteering. The board needs to consider upgrading the audio/visual equipment in the church. There are people in the congregation who are willing to help with their expertise on cost. John motioned and Yvonne seconded establishing a committee to look into this. Motion carried and Larry, Ffej, Rick and Doug will start the process. They will work in cooperation with Vanessa, the Marketing Trustee.

The leak in Amber's office has been fixed. John is still looking at the leak over the chair closet.

Youth and Family Ministry – 2 people were a good fit but declined due to high housing costs. The search will continue.

Staff Equitable Salary update – Chris, Kim, and Vanessa presented the completion of an analysis report brought up at the Nov. 5, 2023 Annual Meeting of the Congregation. The findings were based off comparisons with 40 other churches of our same size and budget. The report offered challenges and potential solutions when presenting the study. Some items that also need to be factored in, along with the study, are benefits, including healthcare, and the rising cost of housing. Members of the committee agreed to continue with investigating what could bring about solutions. The committee will work in cooperation with Ruth, the HR Trustee.

New Business – Doug Tapking asked if the board would give a list of the board members to the congregation. A motion by John with a second by Doug to approve this and motion carried. It was decided to give name, picture, position and email. This would be put on the bulletin board and put in the Wednesday newsletter.

Pastor Report - Attendance and Momentum are up. We received 7 new members and held 4 baptisms in December. Several new visitors are returning. April 7 was set for the spring Congregational meeting. A Town hall meeting and pot luck meal is scheduled for February 11 after the 3<sup>rd</sup> service. Barb Nelson has turned in her resignation as of May 31, 2024. Pastor Jeff has stated that we will need a new Worship Leader. Any leads are welcome.

Human Relations – Nothing to report.

Legal – Yvonne will look over the Spirit of Titus information.

Marketing – Vanessa talked about getting an LED outdoor sign. With so many people driving by the church, it could draw people in. She will work on getting quotes and checking with Sandy zoning laws.

Facilities – 1 pump has failed and there is only one running. To replace the pump the cost would be +/- \$3,500 plus installation. 2 new pumps would cost +/- \$6,000 from the people who installed the boiler. A new thermostat will be installed in the Fellowship Hall this week. We need to consider new paint for the parking lot. There are some repairs that need to be done on the pews.

Mission – The Mission Committee donated \$1,000 to COPI in memory of Binh Thanh Rybacki. As more information about COPI is available they will let the congregation know.

At Large – Nothing to report

Next meeting is February 20, 2024 at 6 PM.

The meeting closed at 8:30 PM with prayer by Vanessa.

Jennifer Wollesen - Secretary