



HOLY LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 15, 2023

In attendance: Laura F., Ed T., Pr. Harry L., Eric H., Melissa W., Lindy W.

Members absent: Beth N., Pr. Brittany Kooi, Lauren K., Greg B.

1. The meeting was called to order by Laura F.
2. Opening devotion was provided by Melissa W, who read thoughts from Pastor Nadia Boles-Weber regarding The Church and Denomination Membership.
3. Discussion of the Core Value "Theologically Guided" -- We value the historical Lutheran understanding of God, humanity, worship and the ways in which God works within our ever-changing world.
 - Doing for others
 - God is a God of love
 - Love in action (Laura: pushing your comfort zone)
 - Church services and liturgy
 - Being inclusive (which is also a separate Core Value)
4. Open Discussion Time from the Congregation: Nothing was brought to Council this month.
5. Approval of July Council Minutes was tabled, pending submission by Greg B.
6. The Pastor's Report was not available, as Pr. Brittany is on maternity leave. Ed T said that he and Emilia had dropped off a meal at the Kooi household, and Ed was surprised to learn that no one else had been doing this. Sheila R. is coordinating the meal effort, and Ed encouraged others to help out.
7. Council Updates:
 - Core Values (see discussion above).
 - 50th Anniversary celebration components:
 - i. Worship: May 5, 2024. Bishop Gonia has confirmed. Pastor Harry suggested including previous pastors and/or spouses, including Bernice Henderschedt. Bernice is the wife of the pastor who started the Holy Love congregation.
 - ii. Ministry to support external: Holy Hammers
 - iii. Community Fair - likely Saturday, May 4. Future discussion with Laura F., Pr. Brittany, Beth Whitney, and Alan Schmuck.
 - iv. Official celebration with meal: Sunday, May 5 (could be May 4 if that works better).
 - v. History of Holy Love may include Bob A., Greg W., Jim L. and Roger C. Ed will liaison.
 - vi. Coordination & Communication with council.
 - Property update, provided by Ed T.
 - i. Lawn sprinkler repair is being provided by Ed Truett, Eric Hermanson, Steve Knuth., Brian Last, and Greg Harter. Many thanks for your time and effort!
 - ii. Church sign replacement:
 - Ed Truett is continuing his research. Ed indicated a six-month lead time will be necessary to design and install a new sign. Ed stated that he will be researching the font and font size of the current sign, which may need to be updated, depending on the size of the new sign.
 - Ed has visited many locations, and has notes regarding sign installers and manufacturers -- including Stuart Signs (Florida), Freeman Signs, and Denver-based Yesco Signs. Ed also indicated that a Stuart Sign with an 8'x2' message area may cost approximately \$25,000.

- Ed has visited numerous sites -- including Mission Viejo Elementary, Community of Grace Church (Reservoir & Quincy), Eaglecrest H.S., Sky Vista M.S., Falcon Creek M.S., Cimarron Elementary, Calvary Church (Hampden & Reservoir), Trinity Baptist (our neighbor on Quincy Circle), Southeast Church of Christ (on Yale, west of Chambers), and New Life Community Church. (Ed indicated that New Life Community Church had experienced operational issues with their Yesco Sign.)
 - Melissa W. stated the importance of including both Holy Love and Holy Love Preschool. The Preschool has indicated interest in contributing to the new sign.
 - Christian Education: Laura Flynn.
 - i. Family Movie night will be Saturday, August 26. The City of Aurora previously had a projector & screen checkout program, but the program has been discontinued. Laura applied for & received an Aurora grant, to fund the purchase of projector and a 16' inflatable movie screen. Promotional flyers are being distributed to the Holy Love families, Holy Love Preschool, All Stars, Day Campers, and Holy Kicks.
 - ii. Laura is coordinating a "Table Race" fundraiser, which will take place after the church service on August 20. The goal is to replace the current old, heavy, cumbersome and dangerous 10-foot tables with newer, lighter 8-foot tables.
 - iii. Sunday School will return on September 10. The first six weeks will teach Holy Love's Core Values. Laura is putting together a Sunday School supply list. Laura also indicated that Sunday, September 10 is "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday.
 - "God's Work, Our Hands" update, provided by Melissa Waples. Pending participation with Lutheran Family Services for baby & apartment baskets. Others include Habitat for Humanity and backpacks for Aurora Interfaith Community Services.
 - Finance update, provided by Lindy W.
 - i. The July reports from the Finance Secretary and Treasurer were sent prior to the council meeting. There were no questions or discussion.
 - ii. As of July, Holy Love is now contributing to the Synod online, to avoid an ongoing issue with checks that had been mailed to the Synod, but had been discovered to be missing or forged. Lindy and Jean Roenfeldt discovered four checks that had never made it to the Synod. Jean had attended a meeting with 1st Bank, and 1st Bank had credited \$1000 to the Holy Love checking account to cover the four checks. During the Council meeting, Laura made a MOTION and Melissa SECONDED to redirect the \$1000 back to the Synod. The motion PASSED.
 - Worship and Music update: Lauren Kennedy was absent from the meeting. The Council extended thanks to Lauren and the committee for scheduling substitute pastors and laypersons during Pastor Brittany's maternity leave.
 - Facility Usage Update -- general Council discussion:
 - i. A Preschool family had requested usage of the church for a tea party. There had been concern regarding security system, liability insurance, a possible cleaning deposit, and Safe Haven guidelines. Pastor Harry indicated that a usage or cleanup fee would be appropriate. Ed Truett will pass along an insurance contact. Discussions are continuing.
 - ii. The church constitution needs to be updated regarding the security system. Melissa W. indicated that Daryl Harvey may be able to provide legal assistance.
 - September meeting agenda topics: the Council tabled discussion regarding a new Member Directory.
8. Devotions for September will be provided by Pastor Harry.
9. A closing Blessing was provided by Pastor Harry.

10. MOTION to adjourn:
PROPOSED by Laura F.
SECONDED by Melissa W.
APPROVED unanimously.

11. The next Council Meeting will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

Submitted by Lindell Whitney, Treasurer

In a divided and disconnected world, we fervently believe that our shared humanity is grounded in Christ's unconditional love. God's infinite grace and mercy drives us to replace anger, judgment, and loneliness with love, forgiveness, and belonging.