

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF
CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GOLDEN VALLEY**

MARCH 23, 2021

A meeting of the council (the "Council") of Calvary Lutheran Church of Golden Valley ("Calvary") was held on March 23, 2021, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Central Time. The meeting was held in the Gathering Space on the first floor of the Calvary building at 7520 Golden Valley Road, 55427.

The following Council members, representing a quorum for purposes of transacting business of the Council and Calvary, were present:

Garnet Arroyo
Laura Jensen
Todd Loncorich
Stuart McFarland

Lloyd Nelson
Rachel Recknagel
Phil Reesnes
Andy Roe

Julie Russo
Jon Stepan
Gina VanderWerf

The following members of the Calvary staff were also in attendance: Zach Thompson, Senior Pastor; Jason Beaver, Executive Director; and Candis Johnson, Finance Director.

Phil served as chair of the meeting and Laura served as secretary. Phil called the meeting to order.

The following activities transpired during the meeting:

1.0 Devotions and Opening Prayer

Led by: Zach Thompson

Biblical focus: Luke 15:4-7

Theme: The 99 are secure because Jesus (and his followers!) search for the lost 1.

2.0 Business Since Last Meeting

(vote) The council unanimously approved the February (23 Feb 2021) council meeting minutes.

3.0 Ministry Update

Guest services needs many volunteers still to commit for Easter services. Contact Greg Stephenson to sign up.

Dr. Sammy and the Merge Lenten and Merge Special Worship service were well-received. The Special Worship service brought many non-members to Calvary, and Calvary has committed to supporting Merge in the future.

Calvary plans to host a Feed My Starving Children meal pack of 150,000 meals during July 22-24 at Calvary's facility.

4.0 Mission, Hunger & Human Needs Task Force

Dawn Dresser has created a draft of a manual and is forming the advisory board.

(decision) The Council appointed Stuart as the Council's representative to the Mission and Outreach advisory board. Previously, the Council anticipated a vote but Council has decided to move this as an appointed position.

5.0 Financial Report

Candis Johnson provided to the Council the financial report for February 2021, and discussed Calvary's financials including as follows:

Background: The COVID-19 pandemic is still ongoing (but starting to ease), and thus there are many unknowns.

In general church operations, year to date (YTD) revenues (\$1.9M) are greater than expenses (\$1.4M).

Early childhood development (ECE) would show a deficit of \$90k without state funding.

Calvary is thankful for a strong base of people who contribute online and automatically.

6.0 Personnel part 1

Brian Bromander (Matt's brother) started on Monday in facilities.

Work on filling the Children's Ministry Director position is ongoing.

7.0 Merger Update

Calvary has called, and the congregation has been notified of, a congregational meeting on Sunday, April 25, after the 10:30am service. The purpose of the meeting is to vote to receive Grace's assets and receive Grace's members into Calvary's membership by transfer. Grace will also hold its own congregational meeting to vote to leave their current denomination (AALC), dissolve and give their assets to Calvary.

There was a question table at the end of Calvary's in person services last week. Comments were generally positive with some good questions asked.

An adoption information meeting is scheduled at Calvary on April 11 (after the 10:30am service) & April 12 at 6:30pm. There will also be information meetings at the Grace location.

Towards integrating the two communities: Zach will be preaching at Grace on 28 Mar, and Kaitlyn Mapes will be preaching at Grace on April 11. Service is at 10am.

8.0 Personnel Part 2

In preparing to staff a second location, Calvary is considering options for a pastor for the new location. Unstuck Consultants, the firm that has been hired to facilitate the merger, recommends finding someone who knows the church culture backwards and forwards—ideally someone who is currently on staff.

Zach and Jason searched their network for candidates. They also considered internal candidates. They felt that Greg Stephenson would be a good fit, and independently, he drafted a letter expressing his interest in being a candidate.

The council discussed options for forming a call committee in accordance with Calvary's constitution. Specifically, the constitution provides options for calling "other Pastors" where "other" refers to a pastor position other than the Senior Pastor. In this case, the constitution requires a call committee of at least seven members appointed by the council. The council also discussed that if possible, it would be desirable to have this campus pastor position nominee recommended quickly enough that they could also be voted on at the same congregational meeting as the Grace church adoption vote.

(vote) After the motion being made and duly seconded, the Council voted unanimously to create a call committee for the campus pastor and appoint the following to the call committee: Phil, Stuart, Laura, Todd, Lloyd, John, Rachel

9.0 Closing prayer

Meeting closed with corporate prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40pm.

Upcoming events in the Calvary Calendar

- Next council meeting will be April 20 (instead of April 27).
- Easter. Need many more volunteers! Hopeful if good weather we hope to be outside at the 10:30am modern service.
- Council service project lead? Council social event coordinator? Think about if this could be you.

Minutes submitted by Laura M. Jensen, Secretary