

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

**JUNE 22, 2021**

A meeting of the council (the “Council”) of Calvary Lutheran Church of Golden Valley (“Calvary”) was held on the date noted above, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Central Time. The meeting was held in room 201 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

Lloyd Nelson  
Rachel Recknagel  
Phil Reesnes  
Andy Roe

Julie Russo  
Jon Stepan  
Gina VanderWerf

Jim Cosgrove, council advisory member representing the new campus, was present. The following members of the Calvary staff were also in attendance: Zach Thompson, Senior Pastor; Jason Beaver, Executive Director; and Candis Johnson, Finance Director.

Stuart McFarland was absent.

Phil served as chair of the meeting. 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

Theme: Stay committed to your mission, but write your plans in pencil.

**2.0 Business Since Last Meeting**

(vote) The council unanimously approved the May 25, 2021, council meeting minutes.

**3.0 Ministry Update (Zach)**

July 18 is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration BBQ in the park.

Sept 12 fall kickoff at Calvary-GV.

Oct 3 is grand opening at Calvary-MTKA.

**4.0 Personnel Report (Jason)**

Kicking off annual reviews July 1.

There is still an active search to fill the open Children’s Ministry Director position. A summer intern has been hired for the Children’s Ministry.

Jason and Zach recently had a staffing and structure discussion with Unstuck Consultants to prepare for multi-campus. Expect a few small role shuffles in the near future.

Working on build-out at the MTKA campus with architecture firm contracted and IT infrastructure.

## **5.0 Financial Report**

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

- In general church operations, revenues (\$2.4M) are greater than expenses (\$1.9M). Calvary did not experience the typical budget boost from Easter because there were not many visitors due to COVID-19. Additionally, last month had 5 weeks instead of 4 which affects the payroll/expense side. Surpluses are expected to decrease over the summer due to construction and booking summer camps & vans.
- Childcare is doing OK financially thanks to the government grants and loan/support.
- The Calvary MTKA campus financials will start appearing in June's numbers that Council will review in July.
- From MTKA campus, their PPE loan was forgiven. The parking lot loan has been paid off.

## **6.0 Recognition of Steven Opheim for his work on the Merger**

The council appreciates Steve's *pro bono* work with the legalities related to the adoption of the Grace Lutheran campus.

## **7.0 LCMC Discussion**

LCMC is a voluntary association; it is not a denomination. We would still be an Independent Lutheran Church. Associating with LCMC does not obligate Calvary, and LCMC would not have any authority over Calvary.

Associating with LCMC would give us a seat at the table for their leadership discussions that Calvary currently can't participate in. It would help us be a resource to other congregations. For questions, see Zach who has been a member of LCMC and attending their meetings for years.

Calvary has studied potential associations with any group several times over the years, and LCMC association has been studied each time. In terms of culture, they are the association that has a closest fit to Calvary—especially they have a high view of scripture and embrace female preachers.

Technically Calvary is already a member of other associations (i.e. the Eaglebrook and Willow Creek associations) which help our staff but doesn't really impact the

congregation members directly. Our pastors are credentialed through LCMC and have been going to LCMC conferences for years.

Calvary would not have a financial obligation to LCMC. However, Calvary has contributed to LCMC financially in the past and we would expect to continue financial support in the future.

It is as easy to dis-affiliate as to affiliate—the process is for the Calvary church council to vote.

(Vote) Laura moved that Calvary Lutheran Church of Golden Valley enter into an association relationship with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ effective as of July 1, 2021. Garnet seconded, Unanimous approval.

### **8.0 Governance Work Introduction**

Heads up that we are considering starting a new committee in the fall to consider our governance documents. Some of the items that would be considered include: Calling of and terminating pastors, “membership”, any changes needed to accommodate a multi-site structure. Towards calling pastors, what is common in other churches and could be considered by this group is to have the Sr. Pastor called by the congregation while all other pastors are hired by the council.

### **9.0 Council Service Projects**

Todd previously sought ideas via email for ideas for the group to do. This was a follow-up discussion for the group to discuss options and frequency. As Feed My Starving Children will be at Calvary, the group expressed interest in finding a way to support that effort.

### **10.0 Diversity / Race Discussion (continued)**

The Council engaged in a discussion about diversity and race within the context of Calvary, the church, and our community.

### **11.0 Closing prayer**

Meeting closed with corporate prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45pm.

### Upcoming events in the Calvary Calendar

- No council meeting in July
- Next council meeting is August 24 at 6pm
- Celebrate 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Calvary and Grace. July 18 all worship services together.
- September 12 is fall kickoff at Calvary GV campus
- October 3 is grand reopening at Calvary MTKA campus

Minutes submitted by Laura M. Jensen, Secretary