



*Calvary's mission is to
lead all people to a lifelong faith
in Jesus Christ.*

WORSHIP	CONNECT	SERVE	
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Unapproved Council Minutes January 15, 2019

Members present: Pastor Hans, Katie Rentschler, Jennifer Rentz, Bonnie Schnell, Bruce Luehmann, Deb Moorman, Marc Sugden, Jana Berndt, Dave Ahlquist, Mike Svobodny, Deb Dittberner, Sarah Suchy, Brooke Zabel

Members absent: Brent Iserman, Tyler Geyen

Pastor Hans led us in devotions relating to "No Outsiders."

President Sarah Suchy called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda. There were no changes or additions.

We discussed "15 Common Mistakes Made on New Church Construction Projects."

STRENGTHENING OUR MISSION AND VISION FOR MINISTRY

Worship: There were 2300 people who worshipped at Calvary for Christmas, compared to 1800 in 2017. The current worship series is "No Outsiders." The upcoming four-week series will be "Twisted," which will center on Bible verses that people twist.

The **Lenten** theme will be "The Ultimate Exodus," which will relate the Old Testament story of Exodus to our lives. There will be two services each Wednesday, a traditional 5pm service and the regular 6:15 service, with a soup and sandwich meal being served from 4:30 – 6:00.

Easter services will be held Saturday, April 20 at 6 pm and Sunday, April 21 at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 am. Since 9:30 tends to be the largest service (and the last time Easter was this late in the year people came in and left right away because it was too full), regular Calvary attendees will be encouraged to worship at one of the other services.

Connect: "Carols and Cocktails" and "Kids and Carols" will be held again next year. Feedback for both has been very positive.

Next Steps: The next gathering is February 10 between services.

Serve: **Luther Crest** Bible Camp registration is now open. The **Backpack Attack** on January 9 filled 2000 bags! **Calvary Preschool** registration begins January 22. Some changes have been made in scheduling to better meet people's needs, including a M-W-F all day program.

SUPPORTING OUR MISSION AND VISION

Consent Agenda: There was one addition to the Fund Approvals. Motion made, seconded and carried to approve the Consent Agenda. This consisted of December meeting minutes, staff

reports and fund approvals. Fund requests were for yarn (\$32.95 from Serve Dedicated Fund), book sleeves and check out cards (\$44.79 from Library Dedicated Fund), and JLG Architects (\$4826.25).

Old Business:

Staffing: Brooke, Pastor Hans and Katie updated us on the search for an Executive Pastor. Pastor Hans and the Call Committee have had conversations with several candidates.

Building Project: We discussed the building timeline. Two congregational forums were held last weekend. Additional forums are scheduled for Wednesday, January 16 at 7 pm and Sunday, January 20 at 9:30 am.

The Financial Feasibility Team is continuing their work. Hiring a financial appeal coach will be part of the vote at the annual meeting.

New Business:

The Annual Congregational Meeting is set for January 27, 2019 at 9:30 am. There must be 75 members present for a quorum when the vote is taken. Eligible voters include confirmed members who have communed and have a record of donating.

We will be voting on the following recommendations of the Building Planning Team:

- *Approve the current concepts.
- *Authorize Council to spend no more than \$85,000 to continue the Congregation's work with JLG Architects, complete necessary soil testing, and contract with an audio/visual consultant and a financial appeal coach.
- *Authorize the BPT to interview and select a builder solution to assist in refining project costs.
- *Authorize the FFT to continue its work of preparing for a potential financial appeal to raise the funds and/or pledges to support the project during the summer and fall of 2019.
- *Authorize the Council to convene a special Congregation Meeting in May 2019 to report on refined cost estimates and to seek the congregation's approval of the commencement of an appeal during the summer and fall of 2019.

Also on the agenda will be the election of **Council members** (Jennifer Rentz, Sarah Suchy, Bonnie Schnell, Marc Sugden, Jana Berndt, Deb Dittberner, Tyler Geyen, and Kathy Hungness) and an explanation of our change from 12 to 8 members, as well as how members of the congregation can have input on who is on Council. The 2019 Budget will also be adopted.

Council members will meet in the preschool area following the annual meeting to vote on officers.

2019 Communication Plan: Deb Dittberner will be the first council member to write about the changing church for the CQ.

Composting Proposal: There has been some interest shown in beginning to compost at Calvary. We will be inviting someone to our next meeting from Pope and Douglas County Solid Waste Management to educate us so that we can find out if this is feasible.

Treasurer's Report: Bruce shared the December and 2018 Financials. Motion made, seconded and carried to approve them.

2019 General Funds stewardship has so far brought in 273 pledges for a total of \$655,315. There are now 130 families giving online, in comparison with 24 families a year ago.

A few changes have been made in the budget since last meeting. A motion was made, seconded and carried to adjust the budget up by \$15,150. The Council also blessed the creation of a new building account and authorized Bruce and/or Katie to look for an account with a higher interest rate that would still maintain liquidity.

Top Ten Takeaways: Sarah will send these out. They will include bringing people to the annual meeting and helping them to understand what it's about, initial pastor interviews have been positive, and changes in the council and how members are chosen.

The meeting was adjourned. We closed in prayer, thanking outgoing members Brooke Zabel, Deb Moorman, Mike Svobodny, Dave Ahlquist, and Brent Iserman for all their work!

Council Meeting Dates: There will not be a Tuesday meeting in April. This will be a part of our retreat on Saturday, April 27.

February 19, 2019
March 19, 2019
April 27, 2019
May 21, 2019
June 11, 2019
July 16, 2019
August 20, 2019
September 17, 2019
October 15, 2019
November 12, 2019
December 10, 2019