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**Unapproved Council Minutes September 27, 2021**

**Members present:** Pastor Hans, Executive Pastor Angie Larson, Jana Berndt, Katie Rentschler, Bruce Luehmann, Tyler Geyen, Frank Peterson, Lukas Gotto, Kathy Hungness, and Jennifer Rentz

**Members Absent:** Deb Dittberner and Marc Sugden

The meeting was called to order at **6:08 p.m.** by President Jana Berndt. Updated financial report and Trunk and Treat were added to the agenda. Pastor Hans led us in prayer.

**Mission shout outs and wins:** Student programming higher than normal, baptisms at 50 for the year, food drive for the shelf was well received, Backpack Attack was successful, great to see families coming to church on Wednesday for church and fellowship, and 15 new families attended the Next Steps Gathering.

**Strengthening Our Mission and Vision for Ministry**

**Strategic Priorities:**

**2021-2022 Priorities:** Kid and Student Ministry search continues for Next Gen minister, Digital Minister remains on pause and Calvary Partner Network is full steam ahead.

**Supporting our Priorities:**

***Communication of Strategies/Mission/Vision/Values conversation;*** continues to move forward with the council, consultants, and appointed strategy team. We discussed how to communicate our mission/vision/values to our church community. Suggestions: be front and center with the information, connect with Partner Network, and utilize generational appropriate communication tools. To allow more time to complete the mission/vision/values plan a revised strategy plan was presented and agreed upon. Final meeting with the consultants and strategy team will be October 18, 2021. Prior to the final meeting J. Berndt, T. Geyen, Pastor Hans, Pastor Angie, K. Rentschler, K. Dahl, and the consultants will meet to compile the data from the previous meetings and send out a final draft of the mission/vision/values strategies to the whole team for their review and edit if needed.

***Financial Planning:***B. Luehmann reported two meetings were held with the Financial Feasibility Team regarding our current finances. The team suggested to be more aggressive in our financial asks to the congregants.

***Covid Catch Up* strategy** consists of Pastor Hans having some private ask conversations with a few families from Calvary. One family has agreed to give Calvary $25,000 if the church can raise another $50,000 over and above their worship income. This week a letter will be sent to the congregation explaining a **C*atch Up Appeal***. In a couple of weeks (October 11) a letter with pledge cards will be sent out to kick off our ***2022 General Fund Stewardship Appeal***.

***Next Gen Minister/Kid & Student Ministry Update:*** Pastor Angie and the student ministry interview team recently interviewed a great candidate. The candidate pool is small. Plan is to follow up with this candidate and hopefully have another candidate to interview to help compare candidates. Angie explained current student ministry curriculum per age group. Calvary is using Orange curriculum for the young, working on leadership development with the 4-5 graders, and utilizing the sermon series and reflection questions with the older students.

**Partner Network Update:** Jon Dahl, Calvary Partner Network Administrator, has been here one month and has developed a conduit to share resources. The www.calvarypartners.org website is available for churches to download the materials. There are also a couple upcoming meetings with the synod addressing how we better partner with them to make a bigger impact.

**Supporting Our Mission and Vision**

**Consent agenda:** A fund approval request for $5,974.58 from the Senior High Youth Trip fund for the expenses from the Houseboat trip to Rainy Lake this summer was entertained. **Motion was made by L. Gotto, seconded by T. Geyen, and carried to approve the minutes of the August Council meeting, staff reports, and the fund approval of $5,974.58 from the Senior High Youth Trip fund.**

**Treasurer’s Report:**

***August financial*s:** presented by B. Luehmann treasurer. August financials continue to lag in Worship Income and Offering. In General Fund Worship Income Year to date we are 14% off of our budget. Expenses remain right on budget. This leaves us with a deficient in monthly Net General Fund Income. However, the YTD 2021 Net General Fund Income shows $52,976 as we were required to show the $149,000 PPP loan forgiveness we received in February as income.

***Approval of Audit committee:*** Dale Vollmers, Penny Stender and Mike Svobodny were asked to be the audit committee.

***Approval of Calvary Partner Network credit card:*** A separate credit card for J. Dahl was requested.

**Motion was made by K. Hungness, seconded by F. Peterson, and carried to approve the August financials, audit committee, and authorization of a credit card for J. Dahl, Calvary Partner Network Administrator.**

**New Business:**

***Trunk or Treat:*** Calvary is partnering with First Lutheran Church to host Trunk and Treat on October 31 4:30-6:30 p.m. The goal is for 2,000 kids to come through our parking lot for fun and treats. A notice will be sent out for people to donate candy and or be available to hand out candy through their vehicle trunk at Calvary Lutheran Church.

**Old Business:**

***Building Project Timeline & Expenses:*** The HVAC system is up and running and much quieter. There will be one more test and balance of the HVAC system.If the results are good we will be wrapping up all the expenses for this project. By the end of 2021 the books of the building project should be closed.

***Covid Update:*** An uptick in Covid is occurring in the community. Two other Lutheran Churches in town are recommending their parishioners follow the CDC guidelines regarding masks for indoor worship. Council decided to highly recommend masks for people attending Calvary. A sign will be posted on the church doors with this recommendation. Church leaders at Calvary are encouraged to wear masks to model this behavior. Pastor Angie is sending out a letter to the parents of the kids/students highly recommending children/students/guides to wear masks while attending the kid/student ministries as per council recommendation.

**Top Three Takeaways:** 1.Numbers of attendees in our Kid & Student Ministries have increased substantially.2. Continue to work towards clarifying Calvary’s mission, vision, and values. 3. Charging forward financially with the Covid Catch Up Appeal.

**SENT OUT TO SERVE**

**Leadership Dates:** *Monday October 4:* Pastor Hans, K. Rentschler, Pastor Angie, K. Dahl, T. Geyen, and J. Berndt will meet to review feedback from the two prior Vision Strategy meetings and produce a revised set of mission/vision/values strategies. *October 8-13* entire Vision Strategy Team will receive a final draft of Mission/Vision/Values Strategies. *Monday October 18* 5:00 p.m. light supper, 5:15 p.m. October Council Meeting, 6-9 p.m. Final Vision and Strategy Team Gathering at Calvary Lutheran Church.

**Prayer and Adjournment:** Pastor Hans led us in a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at **8:17 p.m.**