

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

October 16, 2023

A special meeting of the council (the “Council”) of Calvary Lutheran Church of Golden Valley (“Calvary”) was held on the date noted above, beginning at 8:00 p.m. Central Time. The meeting was via Google Meet web conference.

The following Council members were present (all council members were present):

Tom Harn	Dan Ostgaard	Jill Saatzer
Laura Jensen	Rachel Recknagel	Jason Thorp
Ingrid LeMunyon	Andy Roe	Gina VanderWerf
Todd Loncorich	Julie Russo	

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

Andy called the meeting to order and facilitated the meeting. Laura served as secretary.

The following activities transpired during the meeting:

1.0 Opening Prayer (Zach)

Zach led a prayer to begin the meeting.

2.0 Activities since last meeting (Andy)

Quorum not achieved at regular September Council meeting so items were voted by the entire council online after the meeting:

- a. August meeting minutes approved via Basecamp
- b. Approved (first) version of the budget via Basecamp

After the budget was approved, Pastor Zach initiated an online discussion about the budget based on some learnings and discussions from a recent conference he attended. After several responses to this discussion, Andy called this special meeting so that the council could discuss together as a group. The only agenda item for this special meeting (other than prayer) is to discuss a revised budget proposal.

3.0 Revised Budget (Zach & Candis)

Highlights of the discussion include the following points:

The first budget had contribution income estimated to be less than what we received in 2023. Zach noted that this could result in a message to the congregation that “we

expect you to give less". It isn't very inspirational or faith filled, and often can become self-fulfilling.

The revised budget is asking staff to hold spending to what was already approved. However, it asks the congregation to not decrease giving but instead to at least keep contributions at the 2023 level. Furthermore, not in the budget, but as part of the presentation during the annual meeting, Zach will also challenge the congregation to aim for an increase.

The first proposal had budgeted a deficit for the church. The new proposal anticipates zero deficit. Any surplus contributions will go toward a new "Capital Projects/Ministry" line item and debt reduction.

Generally, Calvary does not project a decline in contributions in the budget. Pastor Zach's plan in 2024 is to keep stewardship more in focus than it has been in recent years.

Laura motioned to approve the revised budget proposed by staff and recommend it for approval by the congregation at the annual meeting. Todd seconded. No further discussion during the designated time. Vote: 10 in favor; 1 opposed. Motion passed.

4.0 Closing Prayer (Zach)

Zach led a prayer to close the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Upcoming events in the Calvary Calendar

Next council meeting October 24, 2023.

Trunk or Treat outreach event at both campuses Friday, 27 October 2023.

Congregational meeting October 30, 2023.

Minutes submitted by Laura M. Jensen