

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

**July 23, 2024**

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 the 4<sup>th</sup> floor conference room at 7520 Golden Valley Road, 55427.

The following Council members were present (council members not present denoted as ~~strikethrough~~):

Tom Harn

Laura Jensen

~~Ingrid LeMunyon~~

Todd Loncorich

~~Rachel Recknagel~~

Andy Roe

Julie Russo

Jill Saatzer

Jason Thorp

Gina VanderWerf

The following members of the Calvary staff were also in attendance: Zach Thompson (Senior Pastor), 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 Devotions and Opening Prayer**

Led by: Zach Thompson

Bible Verse: 1 Cor 1:30. The Mystery of Sanctification by Oswald Chambers

**2.0 Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (Andy)**

none

**3.0 Ministry Update (Zach)**

Greg Stephenson had a good last day celebration on July 7. Paul Loescher is now serving as MTKA campus pastor. Kaleigh Tankersley is full steam ahead for MTKA Kids/YTH.

Next sermon series is called “Re-Imagining Church.” Dan, Megan, Dagny, and Michael will be preaching. A new series “Family Values” will start Labor Day weekend.

Fall Kickoff is Sept 8 – both campuses

There will be a worship schedule change with the new fall schedule. GV Modern service will be at 10am (one service for now) which provides the ability to preach live in the chapel at 9am. There will be one children’s program--also at 10am.

The MTKA service will stay starting at 10:30am.

GV traditional services will remain at 9 & 10:30am.

Calvary has an ongoing commitment to give away at least 10% of contributions. Finances have allowed us to add some new missions: 7 new wells in Zambia with missionaries that we currently support; a group in San Pedro California to train up young adult church leaders. Starting in the next fiscal year, Calvary will add support for 2 new-to-us long-term missionary couples to replace two couples we previously supported who have now retired.

Discipleship nights will begin again in September.

- The After Party—how to be less of a jerk when it comes to politics is a video course. It will NOT persuade who to vote for but instead how to conduct yourself with your neighbors, family, community. The After Party will be offered at both campuses.
- Alpha will be offered in GV.

Calvary will be hosting two concerts at the GV campus.

- Friday, Sept 6: Pat Barret (who was here with Shine a couple years ago).
- Friday, Oct 4: Kim Walker-Smith

#### **4.0 Personnel Update (Jason)**

Still onboarding our new staff. The new process is an improvement over previous process and has been well received.

Georgie Kern, currently on GV Childcare staff, will be the Program Coordinator/Lead Teacher at MTKA next year. Gwen Cosgrove will be back as a music teacher. We are still looking for additional childcare staff in both MTKA and GV.

New facilities staff members have greatly contributed to the capacity of the team and are working out very well.

#### **5.0 Facilities Update (Jason)**

GV: Replaced curbside concrete at the south entrance.

GV: Meeting with a group about potentially renting some office space in our facility.

MTKA: AC units were added to the four Preschool and Nursery rooms. The addition of AC should allow us to plan for a summer program at MTKA next summer.

MTKA: Planned nursery renovation will proceed with paint and other aesthetic improvements. However, the carpet portion of the project is on hold after discovering conditions that are not dangerous in current state but would require double the project cost (from \$6k to \$12k) to proceed with carpet renovations.

Jason has been vetting and interviewing some potential capital campaign consultant partners. Council should plan to vote next month. Data has shown that working with a partner is much more successful than trying to go it alone. They would help us

determine target goals, strategy, and messaging. This is also a good opportunity for us to consider vision for the future. What does the next version of Calvary look like? Capital campaign would be good to pay off mortgage, fix roof and deferred maintenance. Would need to meet overall discipleship goals, but we are “homeowners” and “homes” need maintenance. As we do with the tithes and offering Calvary receives (we try to at least tithe to support missions), we would like to at least tithe off capital campaign too. Please prayerfully consider--what needs doing in our community?

#### **6.0 Financial Report (Jason)**

Overall, things are in good shape. We are seeing consistent giving through the summer (which is nice and doesn't happen every year). MTKA attendance numbers have been good. Things seem to be going well and MTKA is remaining strong. GV is remaining consistent. Not blowing the doors off but also not decreasing.

#### **7.0 Constitution/Bylaws Updates (Andy)**

The committee has met 3 times—meeting approximately every 3-4 weeks. The committee includes 4 council members and 3 past presidents. Jim Borowick is advising plus Zach and Jason represent staff perspective. The group is considering roles, responsibility, and size for effective boards. They have reviewed surveys from current council and outside of council. Zach has been a big help in bringing groups, articles and references from peer churches. The next committee meeting is next Tuesday where the agenda is to start drafting some suggested changes. All proposed changes will be brought back to full council for review and approval before moving forward. The group's goal is for the 1<sup>st</sup> vote to be at annual meeting. Bylaws changes only need 1 vote. Constitution changes need 2 votes, at least 30 days apart.

#### **8.0 New Business**

Question was asked -- how do people stop getting physical offering envelopes? (i.e. if they are online givers now) Answer: send an email to the church (Liz Turner) and they can update the mailing list.

#### **9.0 How We've Seen God Work (all)**

Group discussed things they've noticed.

#### **10.0 Closing prayer (all)**

Meeting closed with prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.

Upcoming events in the Calvary Calendar

Next council meeting is August 27, 2024

Minutes submitted by Laura M. Jensen