

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

September 24, 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 4th 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), Jason Beaver (Executive Director), and Candis Johnson (Finance 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: Matthew 12:23-24. The Go of Preparation. Oswald Chambers

2.0 Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (Andy)

(vote) Motion to approve the August Minutes (Todd) and seconded (Jason). Unanimous approval.

3.0 Financial Report/Budget (Candis)

Reviewed August Financials which is also End of Year. Slightly down from July but generally as expected. August tends to be the lowest giving month, but the expenses don't slow down at the end of the year. Calvary at the total church level finished net positive after debt payment.

(vote) Reviewed and discussed proposed 2025 fiscal year budget. Jason Thorp moved to approve the budget so it can be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting, Ingrid seconded. Unanimous approval.

4.0 Ministry Update (Zach)

Upcoming Sermon Series:

- ***The Thing Beneath the Thing***. Based on a book by Steve Carter. Begins Sept 29th and goes 6 weeks.
 - Immersion Baptisms at GV the last week of this series (Nov. 3)
- ***Generosity Focus***
 - We will have a series focused on generosity and stewardship, Nov. 10, 17, and 24th. There will be pledge cards handed out, to be returned on the 24th

Kids, Youth, and Adult Programming

- Great numbers in Sunday morning Calvary Kids, and Wednesday evening YTH. New NextGen staff doing a fantastic job.
- Fall Kickoff: We served over 400 people out in Calvary Park after the services. Thanks to the many volunteers and staff who made it all possible!
- Community Nights began last Wednesday (Sept 18)
- Great new spirit and vibe at new 10am modern GV service

World Vision "Chosen" Initiative

- We plan to partner with World Vision to help sponsor needy children in El Salvador
- Their new approach is to let the kids pick their sponsors
- We will introduce sponsorship on Sunday, February 16, and attendees will have the opportunity to have their picture(s) taken
- Pastor Zach and his wife, Lexi, will join the World Vision team that following week to bring all our sponsors' pictures down to El Salvador and to tour all the ways they are bringing aid to that area (establishing clean drinking water, training people in agricultural methods, etc)
- On Sunday, February 23, we will be back to share the pictures of the kids with the sponsors they have chosen (see video below to see how this works...)
- "Chosen" video: <https://vimeo.com/365149984/9babbb7bb7>

Concert(s)

- **Kim Walker Smith** and **Jon Reddick** on Friday, Oct 4
- The **Pat Barrett** concert was very well attended (over 400 in attendance, which we were told made it their best attended concert of their tour) and the promoters were so impressed by what a great host Calvary was, they are excited to bring more concerts to us!
- **Cain's** representatives reached out, and we will be hosting their concert in April of 2025
- Concerts are a great opportunity for the community to see the inside of Calvary
- We want to roll out the red carpet and make it a welcoming and joy-filled place.
- These are ticketed concerts.
- There are also a bunch of volunteer spots needed (and you get a free ticket!)

5.0 Personnel Update (Jason)

- Calvary Kids Intern, Jayna Pitman, onboarded and primarily assigned to GV.
- Still looking for additional childcare staff. We've had two new hires and one resignation.
- Discussed Alternative Health Benefit Offset option for Executive Staff

6.0 Facilities Update (Jason)

- Grounds and windows fall cleanup underway
- GV Street Sign damaged on West side. Contacted signage contractor for assessment.
- Working on Facilities Master Plan in progress.
- Next summer, planning for the Worship Center roof replacement and parking lot sealcoating from within the budget.

7.0 Capital Campaign (Zach/Jason)

First call with Sherri Adams was Monday, Sept 23. Jason is currently focused on providing Calvary data for the deep dive analysis by the Generis Team.

8.0 Constitution/Bylaws Updates (Todd)

The task force has completed a lot of great work. However, the documents are not quite ready for final vote today. The task force is still finalizing some decisions after receiving feedback that they have requested. Need final legal review by Steven Opine.

The plan is to publish info, host info sessions and vote at the annual meeting. If there are signs that there is any controversy that arises that may affect, then vote could be delayed until 2025, but for now still on task for goal of vote at annual meeting.

(Editor's note: after the meeting and review of the current documents, it was determined that documents were not complete in time for publishing and voting during the annual meeting. Instead, proposed changes will be discussed at the meeting but any votes on the constitution or bylaws will need to wait for future meetings.)

9.0 Closing prayer (all)

Meeting closed with prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.

Upcoming events in the Calvary Calendar

Tuesday, October 22, 2024 – Next Council meeting

Tuesday, October 29, 2024 – Annual Congregation Meeting

Minutes submitted by Laura M. Jensen