

**Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
**September 24, 2020**

1. Council members in attendance: Garry Haase, President; Marion Russell, Treasurer; Deacon Joe Stanton, representing the Elder Board Chairman; Diana Fallon, Fellowship Board Chairman; Darrell Bittle; Properties Board Chairman; Jean Grieve, Human Care Board Chairman; and Pastor Ray Angerman.

2. Proceedings.

A. Call to Order. The church council held a meeting in the Fellowship Hall with six members attending in-person and two members attending via Zoom. President Garry Haase called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

B. Opening Devotion. Pastor Ray has been receiving phone calls from people suffering from “Corona blues”. He stressed it’s okay to feel sad and grieve what we’ve lost due to the pandemic. Pastors were unprepared to lead through a global pandemic and the political division of the upcoming election. The Psalmist experienced much of what we are feeling today in Psalms 34. “The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry. The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.” On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, we cancelled our church services. We worshiped exclusively on-line via live stream for 10 weeks (thanks to Josh Fallon). We then had our first, in-person worship service on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Approximately one-half of the congregation is now attending in-person. Pastor Ray offered to email the statistics for our live stream participation. Pastor Ray read 2 Corinthians, verse 4. We do not lose heart; we fix our eyes on what is unseen (eternity). Focus on Jesus who will see us through the pandemic.

C. Approval of Minutes (August, draft). Mr Darrell Bittle made a motion to approve the minutes as written, and Ms Diana Fallon seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

3. Financial Reports.

A. Treasurer. Ms Marion Russell reported there is good news and bad news. It appears giving may be less but the church is still \$6.5K in the black.

B. Business Manager. Ms Russell read the business manager’s report and noted

the benevolence fund has an ending balance of \$1,267.97. Pastor Ray assisted a local man. Hope Lutheran Church was thankful for being the recipient of the HH Brown scholarship and passed along a thank-you for the scholarship. August was a quiet month and giving was down approximately \$3K. That's two consecutive months of a negative income. All board chairmen should begin working on their 2021 budgets and have them available for the October council meeting in preparation for the **November-4<sup>th</sup>** voters' assembly meeting.

4. Present Member. Ms Connie Haney attended the council meeting.

5. Board Reports.

A. Elders. Deacon Joe Stanton described the public's perception of Christians as "sticks in the mud", **according to the Red Letter Challenge (RLC). The suggested RLC activity for the day was to have a party.** A message from Mr Lepper--the Elders hoped more people would attend church in-person. The Elders are working on a way to accept on-line prayer requests. **[Postscript note: The on-line prayer request application from our web site is now complete and in operation. It is a community outreach effort.]**

B. Christian Education. President Haase summarized FLM Curtis' report for the Council members as FLM Curtis was detained leading the confirmation class. Pastor Ray is conducting The Red Letter Challenge for the adult Sunday school class, both in-person and on-line. The American Heritage Girls are meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. Pastor Ray reported the WPSM radio station was sold and is no longer listener supported as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. The broadcast format has changed completely—the station is only broadcasting music now. The new owners are not accepting advertisements, so GSLC's \$2,200 donation is no longer warranted. President Haase requested a motion to immediately suspend donations to the WPSM radio station. Ms Russell so moved, and Mr Bittle seconded the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

C. Fellowship. Ms Fallon said there was no activity this past month. She was not certain how many people would attend the Reformation celebration. She suggested using sign-up sheets to determine how many people will attend.

D. Human Care. Ms Grieve commented there was no activity to report.

E. Properties. Mr Bittle reported Capstone Environmental is ready to take additional samples and, based on the lab results, recommend corrective actions. Mr Bittle anticipates the information will be available in time to include in the Properties Board budget for next year. The remediation techniques available are: encapsulate the ceiling tiles, belt sand and shellac the wooden beams, and improve the air circulation near the ceiling. The fire inspector noted the emergency lights and the exit signs need new batteries. The batteries are on-order. The final inspection will follow after the batteries are replaced.

F. Stewardship. There was no activity on this board.

G. Outreach. Other churches have reached out for information regarding GSLC's live stream.

H. Youth. See paragraph B above.

6. Old Business. None.

7. New Business. President Haase requested board chairmen develop a 2021 budget and be prepared to discuss at the October council meeting. Pastor Ray noted Pastor Asher is retiring at the end of this year.

8. Family Life Minister's report. See paragraphs B, G and H above.

9. Pastor's report.

a. Red Letter Challenge. Two hundred twenty-nine people are participating in the challenge, based on the number of books purchased and distributed.

b. Retired pastor, Steve Simon, will be preaching on October 4th.

10. Next Council Meeting. The next council meeting is scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup>. The meeting adjourned at 6:39 pm.

Garry Haase  
Council President

Attachments:

1. Agenda
2. Meeting Minutes for September (draft)
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Board of Elders Report (included in FLM's Report)
5. Board of Education Report (included in FLM's Report)
6. Board of Youth Report (included in FLM's Report)
7. Board of Fellowship Report (included in FLM's Report)
8. Board of Human Care Report (none)
9. Board of Stewardship Report (none)
10. Board of Outreach (included in FLM's Report)
11. Board of Properties Report
12. Business Manager's Report