



1515 N Cascade Ave  
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

## July 13, 2020 FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

### Present (via Zoom)

Pete Bredlau, Pat Friedell, Erik Hjelmstad, Dave Huston; Cathie John, Marcus Kochis, Jan Larson, Cheryl Mahon, Harry Mosco, Ed Weaver, Pastor Travis Norton, and Deacon Erin Power (assistant to the Synod Bishop)

### Absent

None

### Opening

The regular meeting of the First Lutheran Church council was called to order by Vice President, Cathie John, at 7:05 pm.

### Devotions (Cheryl Mahon)

- Cheryl shared a devotion from her week volunteering as Grandma Cher at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp. How we can choose to see others as God sees them. A perfect lesson for these times.

### Introduction of Deacon Erin Power

- Erin started as an intern and didn't want to leave, so they found a permanent position for her. She is now assistant to the Synod Bishop.
- Members of the council introduced themselves to Erin.

### Approval of Minutes

- Cathy had a simple correction of a date under the Finance Committee Report.

**\*\*\*COUNCIL APPROVED THE JUNE 6th MEETING MINUTES AS CORRECTED\*\*\***

### Finance Committee Report

- Year to date numbers are slightly below last year but Harry is pleased that we are at 95% of pledged amounts. This is unusual in the summer.
- \$22,000 left within the Mission account in a money market. Keep it there due to the fact that we just took a loan out from Mission for the Peel House.
- Nearly 50% of the pledged money to renovate the Peel House has been collected.

**\*\*\*COUNCIL APPROVED THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS PRESENTED BY HARRY MOSCO\*\*\***

## Senior Pastor Report

- June was busy. We are starting to do memorial services that were postponed due to COVID-19.
- Worked on celebration for transition for Deacon Joan Kuehn.
- Eric will be the Minister of Worship and Music.
- Michaela is back from maternity leave. She will be part-time until September 1, 2020.
- Working with the staff updating COVID-19 Response.
- Pastor enjoyed a vacation for a week housing his ALPV (Association of Lutheran Pastors Vacation) friends.
- Sam was back in the hospital again with another infection of his line.
- Encouraging staff to take vacation; they just do not know what to do!

## Old Business

- COVID-19 Response
  - Twelve-Step groups are moving to Luther Hall in preparation of Peel House renovation.
  - Small groups of 10 or less are starting to meet.
  - Pastor Travis and Pete Bredlau will talk off-line about upgrading one or two of our rooms to have fresh outside air.
  - Pastor shared his notes for August
    - Funerals are tricky. People want to hug. They want to have a reception line.
    - We will follow the state rather than El Paso County as it is more conservative.
    - Describe the next phase “Protect Our Neighbor” in broad terms.
    - Council agreed with the terms of the outline. Pastor Travis is just going to work on the wording a bit.
    - This will be emailed to the council, published in the Ekklesia and on the website.
    - \*\*\* approved\*\*\*

## **New Business**

- Deacon Erin Powers
  - Thank you to First Lutheran for helping us to continue our mission. We are one of the most generous congregations within the synod.
  - She just wanted to be present and see what is going on in our neck of the woods.
  - Grateful for the support of our missionaries.
  - Erin has shared our COVID-19 re-opening plan with other congregations. FLC leadership has been amazing!
  - Pastor Travis asked how the mood is around the synod. Erin said that people are tired. Some congregations have grown during this time. One congregation changed their sanctuary into a food pantry. Response is different across the board.

## **Reminders**

- Next month's meeting is scheduled for August 10 at 7:00 pm and Pat is scheduled to give the devotion.

## **"Last Chance" Updates**

- Jan – a whole new normal down at the Marion House Soup Kitchen. The food is out on the table with disposable materials.
- Pete – fine.
- Pat – prayers for Dan's sister Diane having surgery tomorrow in Denver.
- Ed – microburst near their house, totaled the roof, damaged the entry way and fence.
- Cheryl – Neil has moved home and is taking steps forward.
- Harry – taking down some more trees in the front of the church as a preventative measure.
- Erik – prayers for Krista, not doing well with online classes. Portland State isn't deciding what they are going to do until August 10<sup>th</sup>. She wanted to graduate by Aug 2021. Stacy's business is doing well with online auctions and pick up.
- Dave – Grandparents visited last week, gave them a great break. Hockey season starts back August 1.
- Marcus – Tree fell on neighbor's house. Neighbor's insurance had to cover the claim because Marcus' tree was healthy. Marcus feels bad. He is paying for fixing the fence. His office is still not open, so he is still working from home.
- Deacon Erin – thanks for letting me attend, a life-giving experience. A very organized meeting.
- Cathy – took a couple of days off to visit with David's family visiting, horse trail ride in the rain/hail.
- Pastor Travis – Sam is going to be coming home with IV antibiotics. Luke was able to continue vacation with one of the ALPV pastor's family.

## **Adjournment with Prayer - Pastor Travis 8:24 pm**

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L Mahon  
Secretary