**Advent Lutheran Church – Church Council Meeting – June 17, 2020 Minutes**

**Present – Voting (n=10)**: Pastor Danielle Miller, David Richards, Michael Hammett, Miriam Sitz Grebey, Deanne Walters, Hans Kriefall, Damaris Maclean, Juan Minier, Blessing Tawengwa, Bree Vandenburg

**Present – Not Voting** **(n=2):** Kevin Bowen, Abby Ferjak

**Not Present – Excused (n=1):** Jon Dohlin

1. **Call to Order**

David Richards opened the meeting with prayer.

1. **Consent Agenda**

The Church Council accepted the consent agenda consisting of meeting minutes, staff reports, and financial statements.

* **Pastor’s Report** — Details pastoral concerns and provides updates about ministry, administrative, building, scheduling and other items.
* **Communications Report** — Provides updates about communications and outreach efforts
* and youth activities.
* **Meeting Minutes** — Notes from the March and April Council meetings.

**Action** ***(Motioned, Seconded, Approved)*:** The Church Council voted to accept all items of the consent agenda as indicated above.

1. **Strategic Discussions: Presentations, Feedback, and Actions**

**OKRs.**

For the next 3 months (June 1 - Aug 31), Advent’s Council, Staff, and members will synergize our efforts around 4 objectives:

1. Sustain increased food ministry service through the summer
2. Use online worship platform to grow reach and membership
3. Expand offerings for growing faith & relationships at home
4. Increase online giving to best Aug YTD last year by 2%

We will also delegate a 5th objective to Advent’s Property Committee: Develop a plan for safely gathering in Advent’s building.

The Council discussed stewardship options for stewardship; for instance, smaller, targeted asks.

Kevin Bowen explained the idea of a video from Council, featuring all members, to give an update on our 3-month plan.

Council split up into three small groups to discuss Online Outreach, Food Ministries, Giving:

1. Food Ministries: Hunger ministry week: launched on a Sunday and giving people sharable content (video and pictures) that would encourage people to watch, share, give; then culminating with a larger social event at end of week
2. Giving
   1. Things are “opening up” but the church has never closed. Here’s the evidence: Food Ministry, Small Groups, reach of our Facebook videos, etc
   2. Hearing personal messages from people about how and why they feel connected
   3. Ministry moment: as part of service, but ALSO standalone videos on Facebook and on Instagram: Choir, food prep, food pantry, testimonials — community target
   4. Larger givers: reminder about pledge
   5. Letter about what it’s taken to move online and what it’ll take to go back to the church
      1. Bullet points of what we’ve done and are doing, and where the needs are
      2. Reminder of your pledge
      3. Pin map of where you are to see advent’s geographic spread: “while we can’t worship in our building, we’re worshiping from X# states”
      4. $20 for 2020
3. Online Outreach
   1. Ask a few people to share content each week
   2. Assign 1-2 online chat greeters who monitor chat for people whose names they don’t recognize
   3. Visitor-focused coffee hour / virtual membership class / ask the pastor specific questions about their sermon
   4. Posting sermons / editing video — YOUTH?
   5. Making sharable content with quotes from the Pastor’s sermons

**PPP Loan.**

David Richards reported that because federal guidelines have expanded, we should have the entire amount of the loan forgiven.

**Financial Reports.**

Approved subject to audit.

**Action** ***(Motioned, Seconded, Approved)*:** The Church Council voted to accept the Financial Reports subject to audit.

**Treasurer.**

Deanne Walters will be assuming an assistant treasurer role, as her full-time job responsibilities increase. The Council will consider who might be able to assume the other responsibilities of the treasurer position.

**Racial Justice.**

What can we be doing right now? What is the next step of accompaniment? Beyond giving people resources, encouraging action items, what happens next? And how do we make sure we are furthering the movement, rather than splintering off with our own micro project?

* 1. Language/taking a stand: make that more visible on website, on building
  2. Facilitating personal journeys of engagement: their journey to taking action; accountability partners; small groups; resource lists
  3. Collective: We are a group of a lot of people who could have a collective impact (how are individual journeys part of the whole)

1. **Next Meeting**

The next Council meeting will take place on **Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Adjournment — Closing Prayer.**

Bree Vandenberg closed the meeting in prayer.

***Respectfully submitted by M.S. Grebey, 6/17/20***