

**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH**  
**Congregational Council Meeting Minutes**  
**April 9, 2017**

**Attendance: Pastor Nathan Hilkert, Adam Annis Brown, Beth Melendez, Tim Tallent, Tegan Brown, Tommy Lane and Karen McIntyre.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

8:36 Opening a meeting prayer and scripture discussion.

8:56 Minutes approved

**8:57 REPORTS**

**Financial Secretary : Beth Melendez**

Good first quarter numbers presented via reports and graphs.

\*\*\* Adam to speak to Christine about Smarties utility reimbursement and running expense reports for FS and send by email to Beth.

Discussion about new Bookkeeping/Payroll provider. During a conversation between Pastor and Gil a disconnect was revealed in what services we required. Messiah wants both payroll and bookkeeping services from the Caleb group. Easy fix. Gil has what he needs to go forward. Gil is okay with Quickbooks. Messiah will need to change from a computer based version to an online version of Quickbooks at a cost of \$55-75. Canceling our present payroll company ADP will offset this cost.

### Karen McIntyre motioned Messiah should acquire Online Quickbooks capabilities and cancel ADP to facilitate our bookkeeping/payroll needs with The Caleb Group.

Adam Annis-Brown seconded.

\*\*\* Adam to speak with Gary to cancel ADP.

\*\*\* Beth to speak to Phil Feibish about our IT needs.

Beth reminder to Tellers: she is processing the Vanco online giving, tellers do not.

### Tegan Brown motioned to accept the Financial Secretary report. Adam seconded.

All approved.

**PASTOR REPORT: Pastor Nathan Hilkert**

Summary/highlights from hard copy report:

**Outreach**

\*\*\* The Care group to be reactivated. Ellie Feibish wants to participate.

The call tree checks on the congregants once a quarter and reports back to Pastor.

\*\*\* Christine Young has donation geared toward having a summer coffee bar for the Smarties parents.

Beginning in the Fall we will once again offer coffee to our Clairemont Elementary parents.

**Policy**

A follow up meeting between Pastor, Beth, Adam and anyone else that wants to participate on going over the accounts to streamline Memorial monies will be set up soon. An attempt to contact congregants or their descendants as to our wish to move the designation will be done as well as published in the bulletins.

Going forward a new policy for monies donated will be: to use the money within one year in its designation, if this does not happen, the monies are either refunded or moved to the general fund.

All these changes will be presented to the congregation at an upcoming meeting.

**Coverage plans:** Pastor and family are awaiting the birth of baby 3, which could happen anytime.

Arrangements for interim pastors are:

4/23 Pastor Devin Strong

4/30 Pastor Ruth Hamilton

5/7 Pastor Devin Strong

**Office Administrator's Report:** no report.

**Music Ministry Report:** report submitted, no discussion.

### **BUDGET 2017 Approval**

Council discussion about work done on budget by Beth Melendez.

### Adam Annis-Brown motioned to approve the 2017 Budget preparation to be presented to the congregation. Tim Tallent with second. All approved.

\*\*\* Adam to tell Chris to send out a letter announcing the Congregational meeting Part II on April 30th.

**Church software :** discussed previously during Financial Secretary report.

### **PAC UPDATE:**

**Carnival:** prep is in good shape.

**The Way:** will take a hiatus during the summer months. Informational meetings will be offered 3-4 times to all inquirers.

**Faith Fusion:** going well.

New need: Marketing and website update.

New PAC meeting date set for Tuesday May 2nd at 6 pm. pizza will be served.

**Wayne Fell,** Director of Evangelical Mission meeting set for May 17th 6:15pm.

We will discuss options for Messiah in mission.

**STAFF Reviews:** to be done soon. Pastor to send forms.

Adam, Tegan, Beth, Karen and Pastor make up the review committee.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Mission:** Adam Annis-Brown reported on his meeting with Karen Slappey, who started a successful alternative front door to Christianity through Beer and Hymns. Initially held at Manuels Tavern, it is now at Smiths Olde Bar in downtown Atlanta on Sunday nights.

They have alternating Beer and Hymns events with liturgy events. It has gradually evolved to include "U2-charist " a participant driven communion, as well as, collecting an offering.

This is considered mission work by the Synod, thus start up monies are available.

Whether or not this idea could be done by Messiah in Decatur is something Council is discussing.

**Youth:** Adam wants to include children in ushering duties if accompanied by an adult.

**Tenant meeting:** Pastor Nathan, Adam, Bogna and Amir, her husband, met up to discuss how they want to expand what they offer their clients. No details were discussed.

**TELLERS / TALKING HEADS**

**BETH will be TH for April**

**May:**

**7 Adam / Tim**

**14 Tommy/Beth**

**21 Adam / Tim**

**28 Karen / Gary**

**TIM**

**June:**

**4 Karen/Tegan**

**11 Tommy/Tim**

**18 Beth/Tegan.**

**25 Adam/ Karen**

**ADAM**

**July:**

**2 Tegan/Tim**

**9 Beth/ Tommy**

**16 Karen/Gary**

**23 Adam/Beth**

**30 Adam/Karen**

**Important dates:**

**April 30 council installation and Congregational Meeting part II after church.**

**May 2 PAC mtg. @ 6pm.**

**May 20 Messiah cleaning day!**

**June 18th Council meeting.**

**Closing Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**10:40 adjourned.**