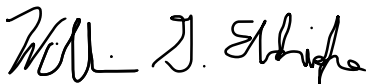


**Calvary Lutheran Church (CLC)  
Council Meeting Minutes  
June 20, 2023**

Council meeting called to order at 4:37 pm

- I. Devotion provided by Sara Odden about science and the Bible.
- II. Quorum: At 4:41 pm there were 6 members present and 3 absent. Council members present: Jess Gromer, Bill Eldridge, Kerk Kerkenbush, Gina Nelson, Sara Odden, and Troy Kilpatrick. Staff present: Pastor David Piper and Pastor Becky Piper. Later arrivals were Mark Massa (5:09 pm) and Kody Bybee (5:17 pm). The Council members absent were Dan Kuecker and Nancy May. Staff absent was Deacon Tom Martin.
- III. Minutes
  - a. Minutes from the last meeting were provided for review. A motion to approve minutes with a typographical change of the number of council members absent from “2” to “1” by Kilpatrick was seconded.
  - b. Motion to approve minutes with typographical error corrected was adopted by vote of 6 “yes” and 0 “no.”
- IV. Old Business (rostered leader reports were as presented; Deacon Tom Martin is on sabbatical)
  - a. The Business and Financial Administrator job description was reviewed. This position replaces the Executive Director position. The proposed adjusted work hours are mornings and evenings three times per week, evening once per week, and full afternoon on Fridays. The position will be non-exempt and include other duties as assigned. A motion was made by Kilpatrick to conditionally approve the job description changes until formally amended with the additional discussed details was seconded and approved by vote of 6 “yes” and 0 “no.”
  - b. Staffing.
    - i. Pastor Becky Piper offered her resignation letter (unsigned copy attached). Motion by Massa to accept the letter of resignation was seconded and approved by vote of 7 “yes” and 0 “no.” Gromer will work with the Synod on the interim minister position.
    - ii. Pastor David Piper announced that he is in a discernment process, meaning he is in discussion with the Synod about other calls.
    - iii. An application was received for the education coordinator.
  - c. Financial review update. Kerkenbush updated the Council on the strategy for finances which includes an evaluation of the baseline budget and how giving is received. The group’s next meeting is July 6. Bybee reviewed the financial packet sent to Council prior to the meeting. Bybee noted that lower giving is common in summer months.
  - d. The Unstuck Group proposal for organizational consulting was discussed. Fund-raising for the work was also discussed.
- V. Next meeting is July 18, 2023, at 4:30 pm at CLC conference room.
- VI. A motion to adjourn by Odden at 5:56 pm was seconded and approved by vote of 7 “yes” and 0 “no.”

Respectfully Submitted,



Bill Eldridge, Secretary

1 attachment.

Dear Church,

Throughout my ministry at Calvary Lutheran Church as your co-pastor, I have asked for three things: prayer, patience and participation. Those three things have brought us through a lot of change.

We celebrated the burning of the mortgage.

We learned to have difficult conversations together as we embraced being a congregation that welcomes ALL (and means it).

We created our guiding statements where all were invited to attend and share about our congregational stories, God's story, and Calvary's story.

We joined together for a few years in partnership with Woyatan Lutheran.

We experienced a pandemic and adapted to ministry in different ways.

We completed a building update/renovation so that our fellowship hall could actually be used as gym space in order to create relationships with one another and the community.

The time has now come for another change. I will be resigning my pastoral position at Calvary and will be moving into a new call within the SD synod. My final Sunday will be July 23rd. My final day in the office will be July 28th (our final VBS day). I will then take my final 4 weeks paid vacation through August 26th, which will be my final official day of call.

What does this mean? It means that at the end of this call, I cannot provide pastoral leadership, funerals, weddings, etc. for the congregation of Calvary Lutheran Church. I also want to remind you that even though Pastor David and I are married and have served as co-pastors, our calls are separate. I will be remaining in the Rapid City community, so if you see me in the grocery store or around town, it's okay to say "hello," but I will no longer serve as your pastor.

I want to thank you for the 8+ years of ministry together. There have been a lot of wonderful things. There have also been some hard things; and the congregation and council leadership will have some important work to do together. The SD synod staff will guide you through this process, including what your next steps will be.

As a church community, you have the potential of coming through this change by being a stronger, healthier community; a church that will continue to welcome and inspire ALL with grace, courage and love. I pray that you will embrace your values of intentional relationships, joyful generosity and servant leadership. How will you do it? You will give this time of transition what it needs: prayer, patience and participation.

Blessings,

Pastor Becky Piper