

**Calvary Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Notes
January 21st, 2025**

Meeting called to order at 5:05 – Members present; Jessica Gromer, Joey Younie, Sara Odden, Julie Richter, Gina Nelson, Mark Massa, Dan Kueker, and Troy Kilpatrick. Martin Kerkenbush was absent.

Staff present - Finance Tammy Singaas, Tom Martin Absent Excused.

Quorum – Established

1. **Agenda** – No changes, approved by consensus
2. **November and December Council Meeting notes.** Motion to approve by Julie Richter and 2nd by Gina Nelson approved unanimously.
3. **Reports – Rostered Leaders Reports**
 - a. **Deacon Tom** – Absent/Excused
 - b. **Financials** – Tammy – **Incomes** - Tremendous giving in December well exceeded the average monthly amount by nearly double. Of important note a gold dollar was donated anonymously (value more than \$2,000) in loose offerings. The council entered discussions over Wednesday meal pricing as concerns have been raised. Key concern for the Council is the fact that meals are currently costing \$7.88 on average. Additional concerns as to the messaging of the suggested prices. Originally Council had moved to replicate a Fork Real approach of “suggested donation amounts” and pay what you can or pay it forward models to lessen the impact of rate changes. Tammy also brought to the attention of the council a dilemma that has arisen without a rostered leader to provide support for contract rentals. Rental visitors have stated to reach out to her at all hours and this is not a good solution for our renters or the Finance Manager. The council requested that Tammy provide more details on upcoming rental activities and requests to help formulate a short-term solution in February. Giving us time to then seek rostered leadership. Total Incomes when compared Year to Date was up \$26,770 or 3.1%.
Expenses -Of note is planned increase donation to the ELCA in 2025 budget increasing to \$5,000 quarterly. Strong expense management throughout the year has led to reduced expenses annually of (\$42,081 or 5%) compared to Year to Date. Combing our Income and Expense performances together we created a positive balance of \$99,754 for fiscal 2024. At this point discussion occurred considering a recommendation from the Finance Committee to re-imburse our MIF funds. Ultimately a **Motion** was made by Dan Kueker and 2nd by Mark Massa to move \$100,000 from our checking into the MIF money market fund. **Approved unanimously.**
Again, by recommendation a **Motion** was made to close our Wells Fargo Investment account (difficult to manage) and open a Charles Schwab account to accommodate stock gifts and or donations. Motion made by Marke Massa and 2nd by Gina Nelson – **Approved unanimously.**
Finally in Interim a Motion was made to allow for both Joey Younie and Julie Richter to be approved as reviewers of payroll with Tammy temporarily from January 29th – February 18th. Motion by Mark Massa and 2nd by Gina Nelson. **Approved unanimously.**
 - c. **Committee Reports**
Endowment Committee – Julie – the committee will recommend in percentages the distributions of the Endowment Fund. They are recommended as follows; Calvary

Lutheran Church – 50%, ELCA support – 25%, and Community Outreach – 25%. Specific details of these amounts were presented for council review.

HR/Personnel – Joey - A draft of the Handbook for review will be available by March with Joey working as point person to Tammy.

Education – Dan – Presented suggestion that we offer only one session in the Fall of 2025 that would occur from the times 5:45 – 6:30 and eliminate to 2nd Session due to low attendance numbers. Additionally presented adding a request for non-member families to provide a \$40 donation to assist with education expenses.

Generosity - Troy – A schedule to be developed for 2025 meetings.

Nominating – Jess – No Report

Worship/Music – Gina – No Report

4. Old Business –

- a. Annual Meeting – Outline of the pending meeting was handed out and reviewed by council.
- b. Leadership Vacancy – Brief discussion centered on potential longer-term vacancy in the rostered leader position due to challenges in the Call process.

5. New Business

- a. Administration leadership staff check ins were passed amongst council to support employee team weekly for meetings and gatherings. All signed up.
- b. Orlando Orchestra – conversation tabled.

6. Next Meeting February 18th at 5:00 Calvary Lutheran Church

7. Motion to adjourn made by Mark Massa and 2nd by Sara Odden – Approved unanimously