

# BOARD OF ELDERS

## Crown of Life Lutheran Church

### Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2021

The meeting opened at 8:21 AM with a prayer by Pastor Phill. All Elders and Pastor Gary were present. Duane Neal, Financial Secretary was a guest.

#### Collection Handling

Duane Neal, Financial Secretary, representing the Church Counters raised some recent issues with picking up offerings. Since it is the responsibility of the counters to pickup and secure all offerings, Duane requested that they be the sole contact for all offerings. They have a system in place with the Trustees to make sure all monies are placed in the appropriate safe. Tellers will pick up the offerings at the beginning and end of the Services. Elders and Ushers will not have any responsibility for this process. The counter on duty will notify the Duty Elder and Ushers as to who is on duty so no misunderstanding as to whom is responsible for collection of the offerings.

One suggestion was made to have Locked Boxes placed at the Sanctuary Doors to place offerings into for later retrieval. This was taken under advisement for later consideration by the Church Treasurer.

#### Bible Study

- Called to Believe, Teach and Confess: An Introduction to Doctrinal Theology, by Stephen Mueller; Chapter 20, The Church. A great discussion was held.
- Next month, Chapter 20, page 397 **unionism** and **syncretism** will have an expanded discussion since ample time could not be given to complete Chapter 20, The Church.

#### Prior Meeting's Minutes

- A motion by Paul was made to accept the minutes from the December 1, 2020 Board of Elders meeting. The motion was seconded with no discussion. The motion passed unanimously and the minutes were approval as published.

#### Pastor's Report

- Based on preliminary reports, Crown of Life should end with a positive balance over expenses exceeding \$100,000. Discussions are underway to put a portion of these monies aside to cover any potential shortages due to limited church attendance/COVID 19 effects in 2021.
- A question arose about any studies being done to determine generational contributions? To date there has not been a study, but Pastor Gary indicated that over the 21 years he has been at Crown of Life, membership has decreased and contributions have always exceeded needs.
- What happens next? No one knows, but this could be a good question for the Church Council to consider.
- Communion distribution – Some members have a concern that the Elders are not properly washing their hands with sanitizer. Pastor requested that all Elders make themselves more visible when using hand sanitizer prior to distribution (place the trays on the table and wash your hands with the sanitizer).

- Pastor discussed the limited attendance at the Sunday morning 10:30 AM service. Do we as Elders want to eliminate this service? We all agreed NO, 10:30 AM services will continue until the normal summer schedule service changes in May.
- Pastor made us aware of a letter from Fountain of Life indicating that they would suspend in person Church services if the positivity rate exceeded 30% for COVID 19 testing. We all agreed that we will monitor the situation at Crown of Life, but we will continue to have our three weekend Services. In addition, we will still have our mid-week Lenten serves. The Ushers and fellow church members will continue to clean the church after each service.
- At the Church services this weekend, January 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, Pastor will be introducing all the officers and members of each of the Boards. Elders are requested to stand at their respective service for acknowledgement.
- New directories are being edited and should be available in late April or early May.

### **Elder Zone Reports**

- Any theological questions raised by a member should be referred to the Pastoral staff.
- Member reports were succinct with only pertinent issues discussed. No attendance reports available due to current COVID 19 protocols.

### **Council Report**

- No numbers were available since the next meeting is the second Tuesday of January. Final numbers will be listed in the February Agenda.

### **Current Month Communion**

- Chris is the Duty Elder.
- No Substitutions were requested.
- January 2021 Elder assignments:

### **JANUARY 2021 Duty Elder: Chris Beck**

Jan. 2nd	Saturday	4:00 PM	Chris & Dave S
Jan. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	9:00 AM 10:30 AM	Chris & Joel Ed M. & Lowell J.
Jan. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	4:00 PM	Chris & Al S.
Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	9:00 AM 10:30 AM	Chris & Joel Paul & Lowell J.
Jan. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	4:00 PM	Chris & Dave S.
Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	Sunday	9:00 AM 10:30 AM	Chris & Paul Tom J. & Henry

## **Old Business**

- Elder Christmas cards? Any responses? The response by the membership was positive. Many members sent cards to their respective Elder thanking them for the Christmas cards that they received.
- The Christmas dinner was a huge success. Over 200 meals were prepared for takeout by the membership. Thanks, was given to David and Linda Sawyer and all the volunteers for all their hard work.
- The monthly Elder sponsored food drive is going well. Duane is coordinating the food cart on Saturday and Ed Michel is coordinating the food cart and delivery to the Food Bank on Sunday and Monday. Thanks to both Ed and Duane for their hard work.

## **New Business**

- A motion to elect Tom Mertins, President, Ron Mara, Vice President and Chris Beck, Secretary for the COL Elder Board was made by Paul. The motion was seconded and they were elected for a one-year term to their respective office; unanimously.
- The card making committee chairwoman, Cathy Meyer requested input on making Easter cards for the Elders. It was agreed that Easter cards were not necessary. In addition, Cathy informed the Elders that the card making committee is currently making "Thinking of You" cards that can be used for a variety of zone member issues. and they will be available to the Elders later this month in the Church office.
- Paul made a request to Pastor Phill for him to preach a specific sermon regarding "How to get ready to receive communion". Pastor said he would be happy to take on this request.

## **Comments for the Good of the Order**

- Happy Birthday to Ed M. on the 17<sup>th</sup>, Hollis Robbins on the 26<sup>th</sup>, and Al on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Are there any Anniversaries missed? No Anniversaries for Elders and Pastoral staff were missed.

## **Next Meeting**

- February 2, 2021 at 8:30 AM. The closing prayer will be led by Chris. (P.S. February 2<sup>nd</sup> is Pastor Phill's 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday)

## **Closing Prayer**

- Paul

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 AM

Respectfully submitted:

Elder Secretary