

CROWN OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2022

Board Members Present: Gene Axelson
Diane Hammann – *WELCOME!*
Darlene McAfee
John Thomas
Marilyn Engelken
Pastor Phill
Gene Kuebler (COL President, non voting)
Cathy Meyer

Board Members Excused: Marty Irwin

Pastor explained that Marilyn has stepped down as chairman and Gene Axelson has agreed to serve the remainder of the term.

Gene called the meeting to order and Pastor Phill opened with prayer.

The minutes from the December 10, 2021 meeting were approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

- At the Church Council meeting, allocation of the overage from the 2021 budget will be decided. The Mission Board is expected to receive a substantial sum which will be added to the Dedicated Funds.
- It is suggested that our goal will be to start looking at larger grants rather than small amounts to lots of people.
- The memorial Fund is where donations that are given in memory of congregants is put. It is for us to recommend to the Church Council how it can be spent to benefit the Crown of Life Congregation (not missions).
- Valley Lutheran High School is at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church. They are hurting, and not able to provide honorarium for their Pulpit Supply Preacher. Tom Mertins (who is on the Board of Directors for Valley) asked if we provide that to cover preaching. They currently only have about 19 attending worship.
History: Mount Calvary is the original LCMS church in Phoenix. They started the school, but when the school needed to improve their facilities, they ran into a road-block because the church had so much land and buildings. As a result, the church was sold to the school. So now the school is responsible for running the church. However, due to the change in demographics, the attendance has been dwindling.

Motion: Gene A. made a motion to set aside **\$6000 (from the dedicated fund) to cover the salary for this year**, with the understanding that they will let us know if there are other things we can do to help. Seconded by Darlene. Motion was approved. It should be sent as a monthly restricted fund. Pastor Phill will get more details before we send the money.

- Rev. Dr. Summerfield, from Concordia, Seward Nebraska will be preaching and Dr. Bull will be teaching Bible Study on the weekend of February 19-20.
- Have not heard specific info on Colorado Fires.

President's Report (Gene K.)

Gene K. shared some thoughts:

- COL had a Task Force that looked at the future, and part of what came out of that is what Gene wants the Church Council to accomplish. However, Gene noted that the Church Council tends to operate in silos, each board or area, only having knowledge of their part. Gene will be looking at one board at a time taking a big part or each of the upcoming Council meetings to educate the Council on what the boards are doing. They will be asked to share what they do, what their goals and plans are.

Mission Board is up first. Since we have such a large budget, we need to start figuring out what we can do with all of the monies we have. What are we doing for God? Should we contact District President Gibson to find churches in our District that could use our help.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS:

The old and new business kind of blended together into one discussion.

- Our summary for the Council should include who is on the Mission Board, history and plans. We need to have an approved budget before Gene A. goes to the Church Council.
- Pastor has asked Darlene to start managing the spreadsheet and complete check requests for the office.
- We also need clear documentation for each organization that we donate to and why.
- We need to ask ourselves "How we are enhancing ministry?" We may not be able to plant another church, but we may be able to find other ways we can support other ministries.
- Diane shared the following numbers from Concordia Seminary St. Louis. They need money for recruitment.:
 - 460 of our 6,500 congregations calling pastors;
 - 400 congregations are sharing pastors and therefore not calling, so vacant;
 - 40% of pastors will reach the eligible retirement age in 8 years (approx.. 2,400

Action Item: Cathy was given the action item to get more information about Christ's Care Children - Kenya

- Apostles Lutheran Church (Peoria) is struggling. They have a large Hispanic Ministry. Their Senior Pastor is on half pay.
- "Way out of the box": Do we help the budget at Mt. Calvary or Apostles? However, just giving money isn't always the solution.
- How can we partner with other churches to help them right themselves?
- We have a lot of work to do this year!

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Recorded by Cathy Meyer