**Advent Lutheran Church – Church Council Meeting – June 19, 2019 Minutes**

**Present – Voting (n=11)**: Pastor Danielle Miller, David Richards, Michael Hammett, Miriam Sitz Grebey, Deanne Walters, Norma Martin, Juan Minier, Bayardo Peralta, Blessing Tawengwa

**Present – Not Voting** **(n=2):** Kevin Bowen, Abby Ferjak

**Not Present – Excused** **(n=1)**: Pastor Gary Mills, Jon Dohlin, Bree Vandenburg

1. **Call to Order**

Blessing Tawengwa led a devotion about what it means to be a Resurrection people.

1. **Consent Agenda**

The Church Council accepted the consent agenda consisting of meeting minutes, staff reports, and financial statements.

* **Pastor’s Report** — Details pastoral concerns and provides updates about ministry, administrative, building, scheduling and other items.
* **Meeting Minutes** — Notes from the May Council meetings.
* **Latino Ministry Report** – Provides updates about the Latino ministry.
* **Communications and Youth Ministry Report** – Provides updates about communications and outreach efforts and youth activities.

**Action** ***(Motioned, Seconded, Approved)*:** The Church Council voted to accept all items of the consent agenda as indicated above.

1. **Strategic Discussions: Presentations, Feedback, and Actions**

**Statement of Activities.**

Deanne explained that there are two Statements of Activities: one, titled General Only, does not include Food Ministries or Music Mondays, so we can see the actual as compared to last year. The other includes Food Ministries and Music Mondays. We discovered we had not been giving Benevolence to the Synod, and when we catch up to give our full amount to the Synod, we will have a deficit of $13,000. (Last year at this time, there was a deficit of $4,000.) Pastor Danielle explained the deficit by noting that several members/families that were regular givers have moved, including one that large giving unit. Also, there are two large gifts she is expecting to come in (they came in around this time last year).

Norma Martin noted that she would like to clarify the financial figures related to Music Mondays.

**Action** ***(Motioned, Seconded, Approved)*:** The Church Council voted to accept the Financial Reports as presented, subject to audit. Norma Martin abstained.

**Nominating Committee Update.**

Norma Martin asked the Council members to think about the knowledge, skills, and assets of the existing Council, and reflect on what knowledge, skills, and assets we need to add to the Council. Miriam Sitz Grebey’s (treasurer) and Michael Hammett’s (vice president) first terms are both up in January 2020.

**Call Committee Update.**

Juan Minier reported that although the Call Committee is not yet making a recommendation to the Council, they have met with and had an excellent conversation with a bilingual candidate.

Norma Martin moved that the Council affirm the direction in which the Call Committee is moving, and that the Council endorse and support the efforts of the Call Committee.

**Action** ***(Motioned, Seconded, Approved)*:** The Church Council voted to affirm, endorse, and support the direction and efforts of the Call Committee.

**Strategic Teams.**

David Richards introduced three discussion points to the Council:

* **What is Council’s role and responsibility in walking alongside the members of the various teams and people involved in this process?**
	+ Being transparent and keeping communication open
	+ Leading but also fully participating
	+ Being relational (checking in, caring)
	+ Helping to troubleshoot if people are, or a team is, having issues
	+ Fully participating in the team, but then reporting the team’s work/recommendation/conclusions back to Council (not interpreting, not making a personal recommendation)
	+ Refer to the Call Committee as a model? They meet, discuss, presents a recommendation to Council; the Council affirms that recommendation and then presents it to the Congregation
	+ Can the Council member and a Team Chair both serve as liaisons back to Council? Periodically? At the end of the work?
	+ Each Team could submit a monthly report, which would circulate across the one Team (so each member gives it the OK, all the Teams, and the Council
	+ **Empowerment, Accountability, Affirmation, and (in the future) Implementation**
* **What is the scope of work of these teams? What are we charging them to do?**
	+ Look at any and all options. If Mission and Vision is X, what is the ideal space that will exist in? Now that we know this is the ideal space, how can we achieve that with our financial reality?
	+ Overall work, three stages: 1. Vision/Mission—what we need; 2. Identify what resources we have; 3. What do to to make that happen?
	+ Form a Research Team to take the lead on doing research for each Team; a resource to empower each Team so that they don’t get bogged down and can focus on their Vision & Mission–based work
	+ Creation of a Covenant and practicing mutual prayer
* **What are the qualities we’re looking for in creating these teams?**
	+ Diversity: age, length of time at Advent, culture, race, class, gender, language, expertise
	+ Facilitator/leader/get-it-done-er
	+ Creative, idea-generator
	+ Faith-driven/grounded in Vision & Mission/grounded in love of GOD (versus focused on/grounded in love of ADVENT specifically, with God as an afterthought)
	+ Openness; not showing up with answers already in hand; welcoming of the “landscape of possibilities”
	+ Adherent to a Covenant
	+ Honesty clothed in kindness and love and caring — agree to disagree
	+ Ability to support group consensus even when different from own ideas

Selection of Teams: The Council distributed all the self-identified applicants to the various teams.

Kevin Bowen will continue sending out the names/applications of further self-identified applicants for Council members to review and suggest for various steams. As much of the Council as is available will reconvene next Wednesday to finish assigning the teams.

Pastor Danielle Miller and Kevin will work on specific scope of work/job descriptions for each team and present them to Council prior to next Wednesday’s meeting.

**Synod Assembly Updates.**

Tabled for the next meeting.

**Mission Fund Application Process.**

Tabled for the next meeting.

**Action** ***(Motioned, Seconded, Approved)*:** The Church Council voted to accept the Financial Reports as presented, subject to audit.

1. **Next Meeting**

The next Council meeting will take place on **Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 7:15 p.m. (after the Wednesday service at 6:30 p.m.)** Norma Martin will lead the devotional.

* **Adjournment — Closing Prayer.**

David Richards closed the meeting in prayer.

***Respectfully submitted by M. Sitz Grebey, 7/1/19***