

**CHARITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
VISION COUNCIL GENERAL SESSION
MEETING MINUTES
October 19, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.**

Members Present:

Staff: Pastor Sam, Doug Leet and Maggie Portra
Vision Council: Deb Uline, Matt Kaldor, Craig Lohstreter, John Seedorf and Mark Anderson
Treasurer: Dallas Sailer
Guests from Call Committee: Beth Allen and Laura Kourajian
Special Guests: Georgia Kingsbury, Brenda Whitman and Charlie Whitman

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Pastor Sam opened the meeting in prayer.
- II. Feedback from Special Guests
 - a. It would be appreciated if the agendas for the Vision Council meetings could be available to the congregation ahead of time, and if there could be greater transparency.
 - b. The congregation likes to know what is going on and is hands on.
 - c. Concerns were expressed with Charity's requirement that the Senior Pastor have a Masters in Divinity degree. It was stated that the LCMC does not have such a requirement.
 - d. It was stated that there are members of the congregation who think Pastor Sam will be the next Senior Pastor.
 - e. It was expressed by the special guests that they do not want Pastor Sam ruled out for the Senior Pastor position because he does not have a Masters in Divinity degree.
 - f. Sam should be allowed to apply for the Senior Pastor position on a level playing field.
 - g. The special guests requested that the Call Committee make meeting agendas and minutes available to the congregation.
 - h. Discussion was held on the possibility of an Interim Pastor. Beth Allen explained that the Call Committee is following a 12 step LCMC process.
 - i. Following the above discussion, the Special Guests left the meeting.
- III. Call Committee Update
 - a. Beth Allen explained that the LCMC has a list of 100 interim pastors. Some are suited to filling in and helping and others are "intentional" interim pastors. Intentional interim pastors have certain training and are equipped to assist a congregation address change and challenges.
 - b. Beth emailed 100 possible interim pastors and received responses from only three.
 - c. Laura updated the Vision Council on Call Committee activities:
 1. Meeting twice per month.
 2. Adding detail to their newsletter communications.
 3. The recognize the need for transparency and communication.
 4. They think the Charity newsletter is best method to communicate with the congregation.
 5. They welcome input.

- d. It was decided that joint Call Committee-Vision Council information sessions would be held quarterly for the congregation.
 - e. Pastor Sam stated that he thought removing the Masters in Divinity degree requirement would be a good idea. He also stated that he doesn't think the Senior Pastor position is a good fit for him.
 - f. Laura and Andrea from the Call Committee will be talking with staff to get their thoughts on the Senior Pastor position.
 - g. A joint Call Committee-Vision Council meeting will be held on November 1, 2021 at 6:15 pm to discuss the possibility of hiring an interim pastor.
 - h. The Call Committee members left the meeting.
- IV. Update on "For Our Neighbors" Program
- a. Maggie Portra provided an update on a new program she would like to implement. It's called For Our Neighbors. Handouts were provided. The program would include:
 - 1. Community events
 - 2. Meeting neighbors' emotional and spiritual needs
 - 3. Meeting neighbors' physical needs
 - 4. Partnering with Centennial Elementary School
 - b. The program would begin in January or February.
 - c. The Vision Council approved the For Our Neighbors program.
 - d. Maggie left the meeting.
- V. Staff Leadership Report
- a. Doug proposed holding the annual voters assembly meeting on January 9, 2022.
 - b. A congregational budget meeting will be held on December 12, 2021.
 - c. Doug will send the Vision Council members a draft budget next week. A budget review meeting will be held on November 1, 2021 at 5:30 pm.
 - d. Pastor Sam will ask Pastor Bob and Pastor Terry to fill in some in November and December.
 - e. Pastor Sam updated the Vision Council on two recent incidents that occurred during Charity youth events.
- VI. Treasurer's Report
- a. Dallas reported that September collections totaled \$83,148, which was \$12,932 less than budget. September actual expenses were \$66,353, which was \$29,727 less than budget. September income was \$16,795 higher than expenses. Expenses year to date exceed income by \$26,342.
- VII. Administrator's Report
- a. Doug had no further updates beyond the budgeting updates he provided earlier.
- VIII. Approval of Meeting Minutes
- a. A motion, which was seconded, was made to approve the minutes from the September 21, 2021 meeting. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.
- IX. Old Business
- a. None
- X. New Business
- a. Budget review meeting on November 1, 2021 at 5:30 followed by a joint meeting with the Call Committee at 6:15 pm.
 - b. Congregational budget meeting on December 12, 2021 at 10:00 am.
 - c. Annual voters assembly meeting on January 9, 2022 at 9:45 am.

- XI. The next Vision Council meeting will be held on November 16, 2021 at 5:30 pm.
Pastor Sam will bring food.
- XII. Closing Prayer
 - a. John closed the meeting in prayer.
- XIII. Adjourn Meeting
 - a. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Mark D. Anderson
Secretary