

*We are a community of all ages gathered by God's grace
for worship, learning, loving and service to all.*

**MINUTES - Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Council Meeting
Sunday, September 20, 2020**

Present: Anna-Marie Plyler, Donna Foster, Ed Beaman, Jamie Sanders, Karen Lucas, Katie Bostic, Marcia Woodward, Mitch Uehling, Noah Adams, Pastor Isenhower, Stacy Gross, and Steve Steck.

Absent: Jennifer Ross

Call to Order and Devotion: President Ed Beaman called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M. Anna-Marie Plyler gave the devotion and offered prayer.

Adoption of Agenda:

Agenda amended to include a written report from Property Committee, the **Amended Agenda was Adopted by Acclamation.**

Adoption of Minutes:

- 1) August 16, 2020 Council Minutes: Motion to approve by Stacy Gross, second by Donna Foster. **Minutes Unanimously Approved.**

Attendance and Membership for August 2020

<u>2020</u>	<u>8:30</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>10:45</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>2019</u>	<u>8:30</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>10:45</u>	<u>Total</u>
8/2/2020	DRIVE IN SERVICE			78	2020 COVID19	8/4/2019	44	30	78	122
8/9/2020	DRIVE IN SERVICE			79	2020 COVID19	8/11/2019	50	24	109	159
8/16/2020	DRIVE IN SERVICE			74	2020 COVID19	8/18/2019	40	25	90	130
8/23/2020	DRIVE IN SERVICE			78	2020 COVID19	8/25/2019	67	N/A	127	194
8/30/2020	DRIVE IN SERVICE			78						
Average				77		Average	50	20	101	151

Total Membership 12/31/2019: 708

Total Active Members 12/31/2019: 402

Current active membership at the time of the August 2020 Council Meeting: 397

Members Added since the August 2020 Council Meeting: 0

Members Removed since the August 2020 Council Meeting 2020: 2

Stacy Michelle Schaefer Buice, joined Westminster Presbyterian Church in Greenville, SC

Virginia Middlebrooks: Death

Current active membership at the time of the September 2020 Meeting: 395

Reports

1. Treasurer's Report: Balance Sheet and P&L Report for August was submitted. Select Committee Financials Distributed Directly to Committee Chairs.
2. Pastor Andrew's Report: Pastor's Written Report Submitted.

Standing Committees:

1. Communication Committee – Karen Lucas, Council Liaison with Wade Wingard, Contact: No Written Report Submitted.
2. Evangelism Committee – Stacy Gross, Acting Chair. No Written Report Submitted.
3. Finance Committee – Jamie Sanders, Council Liaison with Rebecca Richardson, Chair: Finance Committee Reports for February and August submitted along with a Finance Committee Status Report Submitted. The budgeting process will begin soon. The 2021 budgets will be based on the 2020 budgets. Committee Chairs are asked to keep in mind any expenditures other than those of 2020 when preparing their budgets. Worship Life will need to include additional funds for Scholarships and Continuing Education. Parish Life requested that the funds allocated for Lenten Meals be rolled forward to 2021.
4. Gifts Committee – Marcia Woodward: Written Report Submitted. The Time and Talent and Pledge Cards have been mailed out. With COVIC-19 in mind, mailings will replace Temple Talks this year.
5. Learning Committee – Katie Bostic, Chair: No Written Report Submitted.
6. Parish Life Committee – Karen Lucas, Chair: No Written Report Submitted.
7. Property Committee – Ed Beaman Council Liaison with Lauren Chandler Chair: Written Report Submitted.
8. Social Ministry Committee – Steve Steck Council Liaison with Don Caughman Chair: No Written Report Submitted.
9. Worship Life Committee: Donna Foster, Chair: No Written Report Submitted.
10. Youth & Children Committee: Mitch Uehling, Chair: No Written Report Submitted.

Old Business:

1. Status of Nominees Who Have Agreed to Serve on Council:
Pastor Andrew stated that he is still awaiting a response from a few nominees. He will get in touch with them this week.
2. GSLC Retreat Task Force Report:
The report was presented to Council for information. It was suggested that since Lutheridge will not refund the deposit for the 2020 Church Retreat and given the fact that all suitable times for the retreat during 2021 have been filled, that Parish Life make reservations for 2022 soon.
3. Roof Update:
Ed Beaman has signed the contract for the work to begin. Further updates can be found in the Property Committee Report
4. HVAC Update: Work will begin on replacing the Education Building HVAC in a few weeks. Further updates can be found in the Property Committee Report
5. Restart Task Force Update:
President Beaman briefed Council on the activities of the Task Force to date. The Task Force recommended that we continue to hold Drive-In Service for the time being. Council Agreed. Worship and Music Committee was asked to begin planning how the worship service will be conducted in the Sanctuary when the appropriate time comes. Donna Foster will be emailed the notes from the 9/3/2020 Restart Task Force Meeting as well as the ELCA Guidelines for conducting in-person worship. Additionally, Worship Life Committee was requested to make recommendations as to how the Reformation Sunday could be enhanced in the Drive-In Service setting.

New Business:

1. Motion from Property Committee

The Memorial Garden custodian has requested that the Property Committee petition the Congregational Council to approve increasing the cost of interment in the Memorial Garden by \$200 from the present amount of \$450 to \$650.

President Beaman made a motion to amend the Property Committee motion to add the following: "The new amount of \$650 will go into effect on January 1, 2021." Because the additional language did not come from committee, a second was required. Second by Karen Lucas. Motion to amend the original motion was **Unanimously Approved**.

The amended motion as listed below was then voted upon.

The Memorial Garden custodian has requested that the Property Committee petition the Congregational Council to approve increasing the cost of interment in the Memorial Garden by \$200 from the present amount of \$450 to \$650. The new amount of \$650 will go into effect on January 1, 2021. Motion was Unanimously Approved.

2. Replacement for Assistant Treasurer

President Beaman will get in touch with the persons suggested by Council.

3. GSLC Zoom Account

A zoom account has established for Good Shepherd. This account must be scheduled by the Parish Administrator and be used for Good Shepherd business only. The Good Shepherd Calendar on the Website will contain information regarding the scheduled times that the account is reserved.

4. Fiber Optic Internet Connectivity

A Fiber Optic cable for Internet Connection has been installed in the FAB. This will provide for consistent and more robust internet connectivity in the FAB. Committees who have members who wish to meet in person and other members who wish not to meet in person can take advantage of this upgrade. Reservations for the FAB must also be made through the Parish Administrator.

Petitions and Communications:

1. Council was reminded to stay in touch with their committees
2. The COVID-19 Tracking for South Carolina was provided to Council.
3. Council Secretary read a note from Pastor Andrew to Council thanking them for their love and support during the death of his father

Looking Forward

1. Fun Ideas

Ed Beaman requested that Council think of some fun ideas for fellowship that can be done while still social distancing.

- a. Mitch Uehling suggested that Good Shepherd could still hold Trunk-or-Treat in a modified manner. No food would be served during this event. There would only be safe distanced trunk or treating. Gloves could be used while handing candy and cars could be space further apart.
- b. Katie Bostic suggested that we could hold a family movie night and project a movie on a large screen. Families could bring lawn chairs and sit in front of their cars.

The Pulse:

N/A

Executive Session:

N/A

Adjourn:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:09 P.M. with Council Members joining in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted: Anna-Marie Plyler

Pastor's Report
Rev. Andrew Isenhower
September 18, 2020-October 15, 2020

Pastoral Acts

- Funeral for Wilhelmina Edwards
- No baptisms
- No weddings

Worship and Music

- I preached, presided, and led worship for 4 drive-in services.
- I participated in worship planning.

Education

- I have continued leading the mid-week bible studies via Zoom twice a week.
- I have provided Faith 5 resources each week for members and families.
- I have resumed teaching in-person Bible study in the FAB Tuesdays at 11:30 AM.

Pastoral Care

- I made no hospital/rehab visits as these facilities remain closed to visitors.
- I made 23 Pastoral Care phone calls.

Social/Fellowship/Community Events

- None due to Covid 19.

Church Business

- I have continued supervising our seminary student Aaron Spangler.
- I secured the nominations of 7 members of the congregation to run for Council.
- I attended the following committee meetings:
 - Youth Committee
 - Learning Committee
 - Mutual Ministry Committee
 - Executive Committee

Synodical Business

- None this month.

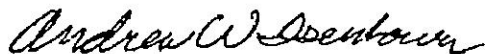
Continuing Education

- I met with my clergy group. We meet with a counsellor once a month to discuss life and ministry and support one another.

Self-Care

- I took time each day for devotional reading and prayer.
- We are continuing to do our best to balance work, family life, and James' virtual school. Next week, his district begins hybrid learning, so he will be in school two days a week. Please continue to pray for all families and school employees during this unprecedented time.

Respectfully submitted,



Pastor Andrew Isenhower

10-12-20 Learning Committee Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Katie Bostic, Bruce Shealy, Don Caughman, Amanda Snodgrass, Anna-Marie Plyler, Lisa Sanchez

Members Absent: Mark Lovern, Stacy Gross, Mitch Uehling

Staff Present: Pastor Andrew

Called the meeting to order 6:31pm

Devotion: Katie Bostic

Adult Sunday School/Bible Study Opportunities

Pastor Andrew had his first in-person bible study on Tuesday this week. He had 7 people attend. He is still going to offer the zoom bible study on Wednesday mornings and evenings. Between all 3 opportunities he averages around 16-20 attendees.

We discussed if we should offer an in-person Sunday school class in the FAB immediately after drive-up service. Bruce asked if we had done or thought about doing a survey asking members if they would feel comfortable attending a Sunday school class, or even asking if they would be comfortable worshipping in the sanctuary with the necessary pre-cautions.

Council is allowing groups of 15 or less to have meetings in the FAB as long as certain safety measures are taken. Katie asked how we would enforce the 15 or less person rule for a SS class. Don wasn't sure we would have 15 people ready to come face to face yet. If more than 15 people were interested in attending, there is enough room in the fab to set up seating that would be safely spaced out.

We discussed what precautions we would take if we had the class. Masks would be required, social distance seating (at least 6ft apart), Temperature checks as you enter class, sign in on seating chart, hand sanitizer always available, no refreshments provided. Also talked about what we would need to do if someone tested positive that had attended the class. Who would be responsible for notifying members, and how?

Don Suggested we send out an email, and also put in the church bulletin asking that if people would be interested in having/attending the in-person class, to please let the Pastor know as they are leaving service, call the church office, or email Katie.

If there is enough of an interest in having a class, Bruce said he would teach in a rotation with 1 or 2 other volunteers.

Bruce expressed that if we all take the necessary precautions, and take responsibility for our actions, that we should be able to gather together safely.

Children Learning Opportunities

The craft bags for the children were not utilized as much as we had hoped. Katie is going to look into possibly getting some activity books for the children. She is also going to talk to Cody about him possibly being able to meet with the children via zoom once a month. Pastor Andrew said Cody had mention doing something for the kids later this semester.

Lisa suggested maybe getting the kids together online to play a game or have a scavenger hunt.

We discussed confirmation class and how or when it might resume in the future. Pastor Andrew and Barbara will discuss at a later date.

Closed Meeting with the Lord's Prayer

Next scheduled meeting is TBD

GSLC Congregational Retreat Update

It has been decided that our next congregational retreat will be in 2022. I have contacted Lutheridge and they are wide open for 2022. Jessica (who is filling in because Angie, who has been furloughed) said to send the dates we are interested in. I also asked her about the deposit, and she said it would be transferred from our 2020 deposit, so we will not owe anything to save the dates.

Our next step is to come up with a date that works for the congregation. I spoke with Gaye Tucker who had agreed to be on the retreat core team. She is willing to serve but does not want to lead the group. She suggested that we have a meeting and invite those interested in working on the retreat, so that we could come up with a date and other volunteers.

I have set up an in-person meeting in the FAB on Sunday November 1st to discuss a date to submit to Lutheridge. I will have Deborah put it in the weekly emails and I will send some email invitations. I hope to get a good cross section of the congregation to get the best date.

If anyone on Council would like to be involved in the retreat planning process, please let me know.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Lucas, chair of Parish Life

Social Ministry Committee October 14, 2020

Despite the many restrictions resulting from the pandemic, Good Shepherd has continued to have a very active social ministry program. The social ministry committee has conducted business via the internet and has provided guidance and leadership for the various programs we support, both financially and through volunteer service.

For several months in the spring, Meals On Wheels operated on a limited basis, but in June regular daily delivery of meals resumed. The Good Shepherd route now has 11 recipients who receive hot meals each weekday. We have 10 volunteers from Good Shepherd who are involved in delivering meals.

The Good Shepherd Food Pantry was closed for several months in the spring but reopened on a limited basis in June. We have gradually built back up to "normal" operations. For example, on October 14 we provided food for 10 recipients representing some 40 individuals. Ann Rushe has done an outstanding job of managing food pantry operations. She reached out to many of our past recipients to let them know we had reopened. We also recently received a very substantial gift of food (13 boxes and three bags) collected by a group at Ft. Jackson.

During the summer we had our annual school supply drive. The congregation responded with donations of needed materials as well as \$425 in financial contributions which was used to buy book bags. The items were divided between Bradley Elementary School in Richland One and Forest Lake Elementary School in Richland Two. Janet Lockhart and Suzanne Sanders coordinated this effort.

Earlier in the year a fire at Epworth Children's Home destroyed the warehouse where items such as linens, towels and various personal items were stored. We had a drive at Good Shepherd to collect needed items, and the congregation responded literally with a car load of items we were able to give to Epworth.

We have continued our regular monthly emphasis of various social ministry needs in our community, encouraging financial donations as well encouraging members to learn more about the organizations being served. Our Lenten Self Denial offerings collected \$3005, which was divided among The Family Shelter, Providence Home for Men and the Women's Shelter.

Since May, because of the generosity of the congregation, we have made contributions of \$760 to the Richland County Sheriff's Department's Project HOPE to provide fans during the summer for needy elderly residents in the county; \$1,000 to the VA Medical Center volunteer program to provide needed items for homeless veterans; \$871 to Happy Wheels, which provides toys, games and other activities for children in the hospital; \$505 to the Big Red Barn Retreat, which offers services to veterans and first responders dealing with PTSD and other conditions; and \$150 to the Meals On Wheels program.

Our social ministry emphasis for October is Lutheran Disaster Response to help victims of west coast fires and hurricanes in the Gulf. We have already received more than \$1,000 for this effort.

We are looking at how we might be able to do our annual Christmas activities, such as the Angel Tree in the Narthex, Salvation Army Christmas Stockings, et al. The committee hopes to have an in-person meeting in November to discuss these and other future social ministry activities.

Don Caughman, Social Ministry Co-Chair

GSLC Worship Life Committee Report
October 13, 2020

The Worship Life Committee has a Zoom meeting scheduled for October 21 to begin developing a plan for the worship service once we return to the sanctuary.

Usher captains have been asked to poll their team members to see how many would be willing to serve.

Some considerations of returning to the sanctuary will need to be coordinated with the property committee. Things like entrance and exit doors and other traffic flow issues, how to designate seating with proper social distancing allowances, etc. will need to be coordinated.

Music decisions must also be made in partnership with the music leaders, the choir, and the pastor.

Good Shepherd Youth & Children Ministry Minutes

Meeting Held on Monday, September, 28th and called to order at 6:33pm in the FAB.

Mitch Uehling welcomed everyone and ensured that everyone social distance around the table. Masks were worn upon arrival and departure from the meeting prior to everyone taking seats around the table. Those in attendance included Pastor Andrew, Amy Kemp, Barbara Rowell, Jennifer Ross, Leigh Ann Tollison, Mitch Uehling, and Susan Uehling.

A brief Devotional was led by Mitch Uehling, Gospel Reflection on Matthew 21 from the ELCA website – Open our eyes to what God is doing in the world, calling us to view our lives thru our “Faith Lenses”

There was some discussion as to whether or not we should have the traditional Trunk-r-Treat Event this fall due to the Covid pandemic. It was decided unanimously that through social distancing in and outdoor environment and with adults required to wear masks per the City of Columbia and DHEC guidelines, that we could safely host this social event for our children. The date was set for October, 25th Sunday at 4pm in the FAB Parking Lot. We will have every other space blocked off so that vehicles and trunk-r-treating are spaced out. We will also encourage kids and families to trunk-r-treat as a family unit with no more than one group per parking space at a time.

-Doors will be unlocked to the FAB for use of restrooms. There won't be any food, games, or cake walk. This will be a FREE, Safe, Outdoor event and Members of Congregation are all encouraged to their Dress in costume, decorate Trunks and Give out Candy to kids. Event will begin at 4pm and conclude at 5pm, open to the public, family and friends.

-A message will be posted on the GSLC website as well as an invitation will be sent to the Day School families and parents encouraging them to attend if they would like. Nothing will be posted on the Marquee out front of the church on Forest Drive this year.

YOGS Events – Again do to Covid, at this time our youth committee unanimously voted to schedule and outdoor Campfire/Cookout/Smoers Event which will be held at Jennifer Ross' house in Blythewood on Saturday, November 21st from 5-7pm for all 6th – 12th graders to attend. Safe social distancing protocols will be in place and Hot Dogs, Drinks and Smores will be provided around an outdoor campfire setting.

No other programs for YOGS or YFMs have been set at this time and our next Youth Committee Meeting will be held in the FAB on MONDAY, NOV. 9th at 6:30pm.

It was discussed that we could have a youth volunteer help Don Caughman on Sunday mornings welcome and greet families and hand out communion plates at the drive-in service as long as they wear masks and follow safety protocol. We are also going to encourage youth to help as Food Pantry Volunteers to Collect Canned Goods at Drive-in Service in Oct.Nov.and Dec.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 7:17pm.

Mitch Uehling – Youth and Children Chair