

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
Vision Council Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2023

Present: Pastor Dave Mesner, Jess Kramer, Tim Kreft, Dave Larsen, Sara Hendrickson, Cole Peterson, Seth Loeffler-Kemp, Cyndi Venberg, Karen Pagel-Guerndt

Not Present: Lauren Nyenhuis

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm.

Devotions – Tim Kreft

There was additional discussion about the **successful April Clean-up Day**. Suggestions for next time (VC supports another clean-up day!!) included publicizing more on social media and getting more teens to step up. It was also helpful that Dave Kreager had a list of things that could be done within the church for people who didn't want to or couldn't participate in the outdoor activity.

Approve Minutes for [4-24-23](#)

Dave Larsen motioned to approve; Seth Loeffler-Kemp seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

RIC Process / Human Sexuality- Pastor Dave

- Pr. Dave described the importance of process and conversation in order for us to grow deeply. Without conversation, there will be “winners” and “losers”.
- Pr. Dave reviewed the Conversation on Human Sexuality Process Summary that took place between October 2009 and January 2010. This process was a response to the ELCA adopting a resolution that made it possible for congregations to call persons in same-gender relationships.
- Vision Council members heard the outcome of this process:
 - *“Let us find God’s peace in the knowledge that we are indeed united as together we strive to become perfect in Christ. While diversity exists on social issues there is unity in Christ; this unity must transcend any worldly concerns to keep us centered as brothers and sisters in Christ and that is Christ himself.”*

Report from NE MN Synod Assembly, April 28-30- Pastor Dave

- Amy Loken received the first Ken Peterson Hunger Award.
- NE MN Synod has raised over \$280,000 through quilt auction over the years.
- Our synod had to drop our benevolence to the ELCA from 45% to 40% due to decreased revenue overall.

Treasurer Report- April

- Dave Larsen reviewed the **April Financial Statements**. The important take-away from our financial results through April is that we're still trending to meet our 2023 budget by year end
- Cindy Venberg motioned to approve March financials; Tim Kreft seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports:

- Experiencing God LT: Seth Loeffler-Kemp- [EGLT Mtg. Minutes 5/10/23](#)
- Reaching Out LT: Cyndi Venberg- [ROLT Mtg. Minutes 5/7/23](#)ld
- Nurturing Faith LT: Jess Kramer, Lauren Nyenhuis, Tim Kreft
 - School year highlights were reviewed
 - Community vegetable garden will be starting soon, between the church and the storage shed
 - Day Camp and Act Local coming in June
- Resource Development: Cole Peterson, Dave Larsen, and Karen Pagel Guerndt- playground equipment and lighter tables for quilters was approved (totalling around \$1300)
- Endowment Fund Board: Lauren Nyenhuis, Sara Hendrickson; 4:30 on June 21 is next meeting

Upcoming New Member Class

- New Member Dinner, potentially June 14

Dave Larsen moved to adjourn, Seth Loeffler-Kemp seconded.

Future Vision Council meetings:

- Monday, June 26, 6:30; Seth Loeffler-Kemp- devotions
- Monday, July 31, 6:30; Lauren Nyenhuis- devotions
- Monday, August 21, 6:30; Cole Peterson- devotions

Vision Council adjourned with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Jess Kramer, Secretary, LCGS Vision Council