**LCOR Council Meeting: January 21, 2020**

**Present:** Pastor Mike Wilker, Pastor Ben Hogue, Jane Rutherford, Matt Fuerhrmeyer, Evan Benoit, Karen Carlson, Bonnie Franklin, Craig Haas, Molly Higgins, Corey Petree, Laura Swanson, Chari Voss, and Andy Weaver

**By Phone:** Elizabeth Hann

**Absent:** Bryan Anderson, Eleanor Grant

6:45 PM Refreshments – Matt Fuehrmeyer

7:00 PM Call to Order – President, Matt Fuehrmeyer

  Devotions, Prayer – Matt Fuehrmeyer

Matt focused on a letter from Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of the Boy Scouts, and his letter to the Boy Scouts to be read/published after his death. Specifically:

“But the real way to get happiness is by giving out happiness to other people. Try and leave this world a little better than you found it and when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate you have not wasted your time but have done your best. 'Be Prepared' in this way, to live happy and to die happy - stick to your Scout Promise always - even after you have ceased to be a boy - and God help you to do it.”

Matt reminded us that we should all try to leave this world a little better and that as new council members and as a new council we also must try to leave our church and church and at large community a little better than when we started.

7:05 PM Introduction to Council Meetings - Matt Fuehrmeyer

Matt discussed the general order of the meetings, beginning with a prompt 7PM start with a hopeful 9PM finish. Within that time frame:

A simple meal or snack, Devotions, and an opening and closing prayer will alternate between council members;

A guest speakers or Suzanne Hazard (Finances) will be next so that they can leave;

Approval of minutes and other business;

Voting, such as on pre-meeting reading material;

Liaison updates;

Executive Sessions may occur, and these have to do with sensitive church items and will not be recorded, though an “After Action Report” maybe be possible.

Pastor Ben suggested that we include Pastor or Staff Reports so that the Council and congregation will be apprised of the pastor’s activities during the month.

7:20 PM Council Responsibilities and Roles - Matt Fuehrmeyer/Pr. Mike

A slide presentation of LCOR New Member Orientation handout was reviewed.

Regarding Specific Responsibility d) To maintain supportive relationships with the pastors(s) and staff and help them annually to evaluate the fulfillment of their calling, appointment, or employment, Pastor Mike would like to bring back this annual evaluation for the pastors. Pastor Mike noted that Mutual Ministry also participates in this style of evaluation but that MM does not provide a report.

Regarding Specific Property and Financial Responsibilities, Pastor Mike passed out the 2020 Budget Memo dated November 3, 2019.

Regarding Congregational Council Meetings, Matt noted that there are 2 meetings in October.

Regarding Current Reformation Committees and Teams, Pastor Mike provided a handout “Service and Justice Ministries through Reformation” to provide a listing of the many internally led ministries (Pastor’s Discretionary Fund, Food Pantry, SEM, WIN, Everyone Hone DC, Homeless Children’s Playtime Project, Good Neighbors Refugee Group, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee service, and Global Mission);

local service and justice links (Metro DC Synod, LSS, Lutheran communities and Services, Fellowship Square, Community Family Life Service, and N Street Village); and

nationwide service and just links (ELCA Social Statement , ELCA Advocacy Washington office, Lutherans Restoring Creation, Emmaus Collective, Lutheran Volunteer Corp, Reconciling Works, an Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries).

7:45 PM Facilities Tour - Pr. Mike/Pr. Ben.

We were then led on a Campus Field Trip to discuss the various Committees and Teams in LCOR as found in LCOR New Member Orientation handout.

Service and Justice Teams were discussed in the Shalom Room (St. John’s I).

Regarding Service and Justice Teams, Pastor Mike provided a handout “Service and Justice Ministries through Reformation” to provide a listing of the many internally led ministries (Pastor’s Discretionary Fund, Food Pantry, SEM, WIN, Everyone Hone DC, Homeless Children’s Playtime Project, Good Neighbors Refugee Group, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee service, and Global Mission);

local service and justice links (Metro DC Synod, LSS, Lutheran communities and Services, Fellowship Square, Community Family Life Services, and N Street Village); and

nationwide service and just links (ELCA Social Statement , ELCA Advocacy Washington office, Lutherans Restoring Creation, Emmaus Collective, Lutheran Volunteer Corp, Reconciling Works, an Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries).

In the Nursery (St. John’s II), Spiritual Growth was discussed, including Sunday School teachers, nursery worker, Ashes to Easter, Gratitude Journals, Play bags, and Small Groups. The Sunday School Classrooms (upstairs) include the Children’s Chapel, River Park Nursery and 3 classes, noting that confirmation takes place in the Shalom Room.

In the Blue Room we discussed the Fellowship and Caring Ministries as well as Engagement and Communication.

In the Sanctuary, we discussed Worship, Music, and the Arts.

We toured Pastor Ben’s new kitchen in 220 and the church office.

The Stewardship, Property, and Finance Teams were discussed next at the Shalom Room

8:48 PM Ministry Area Discussion - Property - Jane/Parry Carlson/Matt Fouse

Parry Carlson is head of the Property Committee. There are three aspects of the Property Committee

The first is the Property Meeting Committee which is comprised of 4-6 people that meet several times per year. This committee approves the budget which is never enough. Parry informed us that we are currently using a Line of Credit to make repairs. Jane noted that we need a long-range plans for replacements such as the elevator and compressors.

The second is the Property Work Committee which does painting, and so forth within the church. There are 2 work days each year.

The third is the Tuesday Work Group which is a group that does “Jane’s Honey-Dos”, for example.

Parry noted that the campus and parsonage are valued at $14M.

Matt asked Parry what ONE THING that the council should keep an eye on. Parry responded that the council should keep an eye on the Line of Credit.

Pastor Mike concurred that we need a long-range plans for replacements.

8:55 PM Liaisons to Ministry Areas - Matt Fuehrmeyer/Pr. Mike/Pr. Ben

The following liaisons are:

Evan – Spiritual Growth

Elizabeth – Worship, Music, and the Arts

Chari – Fellowship and Caring Ministry

Bryan –Service and Justice Teams

Corey – Engagement

Laura – Stewardship, Property, and Finance Teams

Craig – Personal

Molly – Archives and History

9:00 PM Retreat Update and Key Dates for the Year - Matt Fuehrmeyer

The retreat is February 7 and 8. A potluck dinner will be held at Laura’s Friday evening. The retreat will be held at SEM (3111 MLK Blvd) from 9AM-~ 3:30 PM

Reference should be made to the “fluid calendar” emailed to council members.

Closing Prayer - Matt Fuehrmeyer

9:16 PM  Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Carlson