

## Lord of the Mountains Church Council Meeting

September 12, 2023

*In Attendance:* Pastor Kate Davidson, Amie Branson, Lydia Ziauddin, Catheryn Carlson, Doug Muschett, Alicia Dunn, Kevin Clarke, Ben Little, Craig Bolt, Ruth Hendricks *Excused:* Christy Reinking, Jay Meservy

Meeting opened at 5:34 pm. Kevin led a devotion – the poem “The Song in the Arrow’ - from a historic family book *The Treasure Chest*.

1. August council minutes were approved.
2. Pastor offered a full report: a) A sound board is in process of being ordered. An anonymous donor will cover the cost of purchase. b) A new member orientation will take place on Oct. 2 and will be welcomed the following Sunday. c) Pastor will be going to ABQ to care for her dad and to attend the synod’s theological conference. d) A new bible-study class is being held at Saved by the Wine starting tomorrow. e) LOTM has launched a new app in which members can join groups and sermons will be posted. f) The offering card is forthcoming. g) A Latino congregation which has been using the church building has been an increasingly difficult partner (ie not cleaning up) and has lost their privileges for building use. Exterior door code will be changed.
3. **Craig proposed changes to the church constitution and bylaws** regarding the charitable endowment and legacy gift funds. The recommendation is for one board to manage both of these funds and to be able to distribute up to 8% of the charitable gift funds (up from 6%). The congregation will need to approve these changes at a special congregational meeting and then have it ratified at the annual meeting. This motion was approved.
4. The **Interfaith Thanksgiving Service** will take place at Nov 12 at 3 pm at St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church.
5. *Committee Reports:*
  - a. Worship and Music – Animal Blessing will take place on Oct 1 at 4 pm.
  - b. Finance – The church is slowly catching up on meeting our budget (meeting 85% of pledge currently). Expenses continue to be under budget. Oktoberfest – the launch of the annual Stewardship drive – will take place this Thursday.
  - c. Education – Upcoming Table Talk topics include Recycling and a series on End of Life matters (Financial, Spiritual, Health). A CPR class by “Starting Hearts” will take place on Oct 1.
  - d. Capital Campaign: 70K has been collected; 65K has been spent. A Paint Night fundraiser will take place on Oct 7.
  - e. Property: Focus is on replacing lights in the Fellowship Hall, cutting trees blocking lights near the parking lot and fixing light fixtures in the conference room.
  - f. Personnel: Caroline is putting together a combination of two job descriptions for her current music minister position. This will be reviewed and finalized by the committee with a letter of agreement moving forward.

6. *Other Subjects:*

Council members are to call their assigned congregation members for a “**Call Every Member**” check-in by the end of October and/or next council meeting.

**Building Use Policy:** Council discussed the building use policy, including rules (and exceptions to the rules) regarding parking lot and alcohol use at weddings.

The meeting ended with a reading by Kevin (“Extravagance of God”) at 6:51 pm. The next meeting will take place on Tue, Nov 14 at 5:30 pm. Doug will offer a reflection.

Respectfully submitted,

Lydia Ziauddin