

**Council Meeting Minutes for Gold Hill Lutheran Church
Tuesday, April 13, 2021**

Mike Lawson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the social hall at Gold Hill. Present were as follows: Mike Lawson, President; Curt Quist, Administration Director; Revonda Stordahl, Treasurer; Peggy Graving, Secretary; Lynn Aniksdal, Leadership Ministry; Nicholas Conlan, Outreach Ministry; Chris Ketchum, Worship Ministry; Pastor Marlow Carrels; and one guest, Dave Coleman. Julie Corbin, Spiritual Ministry, was excused.

Devotions were given by Pastor. He read from Second Kings 4: 24-28. In this passage a woman was asked if she was all right. This is different from those days when women were usually asked how their husbands were. It brought to mind that during these times we as the council should be asking how our parishioners are doing. What do they need? Not looking inward at ourselves and talking about how we are doing.

Lynn moved and Chris seconded that we approve the minutes as emailed. The motion was approved.

Revonda gave the treasurer's report. Giving in March was very good. Our income was up, and our expenses were less than budgeted. The net income for March was \$4,410.75 over budget. The year to date is over budget by \$3,760.67. The electronic depositing with the bank is working and Revonda is able to access the reports of giving. Peggy moved and Nicholas seconded that the treasurer's report be accepted as presented. The motion carried. Revonda let us know that another payment on the loan will be made to the trust thanks to a donation. The cost for quick books to access the payroll part of the program has gone up. To pay two employees it is going to cost us \$120.00 per month for the program with the attached payroll capabilities.

Pastor's Report: (see attached) Pastor will be addressing Stewardship and financial stability with the congregation through different classes. Pastor asked if Beer and Theology could have beer on the premises and the request was denied. Under Outreach to local Pastors and churches Pastor has been in communication with Gloria Dei regarding ministries we can do together. We have a communion agreement with the Episcopalian Church and can help there. The Presbyterian Church has a Pastor from Kalispell every other Sunday. He has been helping the intern there as called upon. He has been going to the Ministerial Council Meetings and has found out there are a number of churches who do not get along together. There is a possibility to work with some of the churches in the community to combine Stephen Ministry, quilters, etc.

Mike: People want to be able to sing when they come back to church. He feels that we need to make the social hall ready for the overflow from the sanctuary. The social hall can hold about 32 with social distancing. Mike looked back at the date of the installation of the boiler. It was in 2007 when Bob Drain, Howard Lawson and Mike installed the boiler. As for the annual meeting Mike has decided that he will be willing to consider the trust review committee recommendation that will be presented at the annual meeting.

Curt: nothing to report

Chris: Report attached.

Lynn: Two or three quilters would like to come in and clean the upstairs quilt room and the quilt closet. No decision was made. The gardeners would like to meet plan the plantings and care for the flower beds. They plan to meet outside.

Lynn is waiting for another bid for the cleaning. She is getting clarification on what the first bid included in their proposal.

We have one bid from Lockmer for the boiler repair. It is \$1125. Jay Lawrence from Brown's wants to clean the tank for \$175 and decide then if a new tank and valve are necessary. Curt

would like to see us get a complete bid from Brown's first before we spend any money. He moved that after Lynn receives the bids that she has the authority to accept to the least expensive bid. Nicholas seconded the motion and it carried.

Julie emailed that the details about Vacation Bible School will be in the May Nugget. FLBC will hold the camp outside according to the guidelines for camps from June 27- July 2.

Nicholas is excited about a way to get word out via the internet about Gold Hill using Google Nonprofit. Pastor asked that he come to the office to discuss the idea. Nicholas also had some great fund-raising ideas to help defray the cost of perhaps a mailing or postcards to be distributed in the community. There is a Fund-Raising Policy in place and Nicholas does have a budget. It was explained that Outreach doesn't mean just getting people into the church but getting the church into the community and the world. Things Gold Hill does currently are the Paper Bag Lunch Ministry and quilting. We had a YAGM student prior to Covid. We could check into that program again. Nicholas should check with those in charge of these outreach programs and make sure they have what they need – show support.

Old Business: Curt moved; and Revonda seconded that we accept the paternity for Pastor as follows: He will have two weeks off beginning the day of labor and will work from home, having his Bible study classes and preside at Church services for the next four weeks. The motion passed.

Though the Bishop would have liked us to have our Annual Meeting prior to the Synod meeting we decided to stick with June 6th as our date for the meeting due to the fact it will have to be outside in the parking lot.

We had a lot of discussion on the opening of the church on May 1st. We understand that some are reluctant to come back into the church, some do not want to sign up for services to meet the requirement for social distancing, and some do not like that we can not sing. We, council members, feel the same way, but feel it is necessary to abide by the regulations. We cannot go back to 75% and have the 6- foot social distancing requirement. Our sanctuary is not large enough to make that much difference than it does at 50% occupancy due to the 6- foot requirement. Dave Coleman was present to state his feelings toward singing. He does not feel it is safe for us to sing even with our masks on. He is asking that we have one person sing each hymn for the congregation. The worship committee and Dave will be looking for people willing to sing. They would probably stand behind the Altar wall and use a microphone. The council had no objection to this suggestion.

We discussed the need for people to be willing to come in and clean the church. If the quilters, cloggers, Al-Anon, use the church they will be responsible for their own set up and clean up. We do not have a janitor. Cleaning will be different now due to the need for sanitation of everything that has been used. Floors will need to be swept and vacuumed.

We will have a cleaning day – tentatively set for April 25th to clean the church – spring cleaning with sanitation elements added – so we can reopen.

Curt moved that we adjourn after reciting the Lord's Prayer. Nicholas seconded and the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Peggy Graving, Secretary