

# Ascension Lutheran Church – Council Meeting Minutes

Littleton, Colorado

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

---

## In attendance:

**Council Members:** Linda Achziger, Norm Fringer, Pastor John Larson, Tim McClaren, Tom Munson, Barbara Rutter, Scott Luethy, Mike Zehnder, Connie Fringer, Chuck Mielke, Anita Baresel, Roger Koester, Stephanie Luethy, Carol Stamp

**Excused:** Sherry Hitztaler

**Guest:** Bob Stamp,

## Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Ascension Lutheran Church (ALC) by the President.

## Opening Prayer:

Pastor John Larson offered an opening prayer.

## Opening Devotion

President shared an opening devotion, “Dashes.”

## Approval of Previous Minutes

President asked for approval suggested adjustments to the Council meeting minutes of November 2020. Without correction, the *Council **approved** the meeting minutes.*

## New Business

- Reports to be emailed before next council meeting to all members. Questions and comments to be addressed at the council meeting.
- No Lenten supper for this Lenten season.

## Council Reports

- Pastor John Larson
  - How to proceed with Coordinator for the Severe Weather Shelter Network
    - Bri Fort is stepping down, so one or more people are needed.
    - Congregation needs to be reminded of what the ministry does and the benefits, such as permanent housing obtained.
  - Virus relief fund
    - There continues to be a need in the community. There is approximately four months' worth of funds left.
  - VBS
    - What steps should be taken and how should the VBS be staffed?
  - Ideas for Thrivent Choice Dollars recognition were asked for.
  - Kelly Lafferty is new preschool director
- Treasurers report
  - Although not present, report for last year was provided by Allen Brookshire.
  - Treasurer's report was accepted with one comment on the use of Amazon Smile. Kathie Harvey will be consulted on this.
- **Director of Music Ministry – Michael Zehnder**
  - Rocky Mountain Fine Tuning will be new contractors for organ, as others are going out of business.

# Ascension Lutheran Church – Council Meeting Minutes

Littleton, Colorado

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

---

- **Columbarium Memorial Garden**
  - There was nothing to report
- **Board of Elders**
  - Scott and Don are working together. When Scott is out of town, Don will attend the council meetings.
  - 18 services were conducted in December.
  - The 2021 salaries were worked on.
  - Mission disbursements are being determined.
- **Ladies Guild**
  - Maureen James gave a donation around \$300-400 for the goods she sold when the bake sale was cancelled
- **Life Enrichment** – vacant
- **Social ministry**
  - Report was presented and no comments were made.
- **Stewardship**
  - Thanks to Norm Hermsmeyer for his work.
- **Trustees**
  - Suggested to have Request for Change to be signed by Trustees instead of the secretary and the final version to be signed by the secretary.
  - Zoom meeting on Thursday with contractor and plan to discuss the change above.
  - The Treasurer needs to move \$350,000 from Project Peter to LCEF to cover renovation expenses.
- **Youth**
  - Nothing to report.

## Unfinished reports

- Motion to move Synodical convention one year ahead due to COVID and passed unanimously.
- President and Secretary to send in vote online.
- Motion to allow Treasurer to pay recurring bills from specific accounts, and to allow board chairs to approve disbursements up to \$1000. The assistant treasurer may sign when the treasurer is not available (passed unanimously).

## Budget Discussion

- Instrumentalists amount incorrect and should be \$9,400, as there is no volunteer drummer.
- PPP short form to arrive by the end of January. Itemization of bills but no documentation needed. SBA will work on this for approximately 4-8 months in order to determine who will have loans forgiven.

## Announcements

- Next Regular Voter's Meeting – January 24, 2021
- Next Council Meeting – February 9, 2021

# **Ascension Lutheran Church – Council Meeting Minutes**

Littleton, Colorado

*Tuesday, January 12, 2021*

---

- Board of the Month (February 2021) – Columbarium

Board of the Month duties includes:

Devotions for Council Meeting, “Happenings” newsletter article each week.

## **Adjournment**

- At 8:30 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.
- The Council said the Lord’s Prayer together.

————— Respectfully Submitted by Barbara Rutter, Secretary

# **Ascension Lutheran Church – Council Meeting Minutes**

Littleton, Colorado

*Tuesday, January 12, 2021*

## **PPP Loan Forgiveness:**

- Based upon advice from our lender (Lutheran Federal Credit Union), I have not applied for forgiveness of Ascension's PPP Loan. LutheranFCU's advice has been consistent over the months.
- The new COVID stimulus legislation mandates the SBA to create a simplified PPP forgiveness application for small businesses whose PPP loans were less than \$150,000. The simplified application must fit on one page and will include loan information as well as a certification from the business owner that the funds were used properly and are eligible for forgiveness, but will not include calculations or other additional information. Congress gave SBA until the end of January to develop the new simplified process and the new simplified form.

Respectfully submitted – Allen Brookshire, Treasurer