



**Living Savior Lutheran Church  
309 Pond Street  
Montgomery, Texas 77356**

## **Church Council Meeting July 10, 2021**

**In Attendance:** Jack Heintschel, Andrea Mascardo, Lee Wernli, Earl McCaleb, Mark Lamprecht, Lisa Schoppa, John Burg, Joyce Knighten, Mike Newman, Pete Hames, Roger Bartel, Pastor and Cheryl Bailes **Absent:** Clay Hegar, Chris Cheatham

**Welcome and Call to Order** - President Jack Heintschel called the church council meeting to order and then led a brief devotion based on 1Thessalonians 2:13, "Defending Against the Devil" and an opening prayer.

**Approve Council Meeting Minutes** - Jack reminded everyone that the minutes from the January and April meetings had already been approved via email and posted. Pete Hames requested that the last sentence on p. 15, tenth paragraph from the Long Range Planning Committee's report that he presented at the June 28<sup>th</sup> Special Voters Meeting be changed for clarification. Sentence now reads:  
We already know our design meets the city's general requirements.

### **Reports of Officers, Boards and Committees**

#### **President's Report - Jack Heintschel**

Jack reported that we (LSLC) have resumed the pre-Covid schedule and activities as of June 1<sup>st</sup>. In addition, we were one of the first churches to reopen and one of a few to stay open – under parameters – during the last year. There were no covid19 cases that originated from LSLC.

The Texas District Convention was held June 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> in San Marcos. Pastor Bailes and Mark Lamprecht were in attendance. A video of the highlights will be shown tomorrow at the Voters Meeting.

Opportunities for the congregation to have photos taken to update the new website are upcoming. The project initiator and coordinator for this is Susie Yeager. Photo sessions will be scheduled every Friday and Saturday in August via Sign Up Genius.

Following Pete Hames exciting presentation of the Long Range Planning Committee's Family Life Building at the Special Voters Meeting two weeks ago, there have been many comments from the congregation. Executive Committee's approval to call for a vote in tomorrow's Voter's Meeting to approve the \$30k investigatory report will come later during the LRPC report.

The Thrivent Choice Fund will now be administered by an Executive Committee. This fund is a real opportunity for church members/groups to use undesignated funds. An email to Earl McCaleb will get the application process started.

Recruitment of several new Officers, Board and Committee leaders for 2022 is under way. President Jack Heintschel is stepping down. Vice President Chris Cheatham will most likely become President, leaving the Vice President position open. Mike Newman, Board of Trustees, is also stepping down.

#### **Vice President's Report – Chris Cheatham**

No Report (Absent -family obligation)

#### **Treasurer's Report – Earl McCaleb**

##### **Second QTR 2021 YTD**

##### **Current Bank Account Balances: (07/8/2021)**

Woodforest National Bank (checkbook balance).....	\$ 64,003.74
Lutheran Federal Credit Union.....	\$ 55,032.13
Texas District Church Expansion Fund.....	<u>\$124,825.86</u>
Total	\$241,861.73

Change from previous report.....+\$ 20,912.77

##### **Income and Expense Results:**

YTD revenue is \$205,709.53. It is above budget by.....	\$10,196.98 or 5.22%
YTD expense is \$187,343.92. It is below budget by.....	\$20,458.37 or 9.85%
YTD revenue is less than expense by.....	\$18,365.61 or 9.81%
Dedicated Funds Balance.....	\$198,489.77
Church Building Fund Balance.....	\$142,582.47

<b>Capital Expenditures: (7/09/2021) – Playground.....</b>	<b>\$12,803.00</b>
Cemetery Fence.....	\$ 3,553.00
New FLC Design.....	\$ 12,721.01

Earl explained that it was important to remember that dedicated funds are not budgeted and that capital expenditures come from dedicated funds and are thus not budgeted. Only operating expenses from the general fund are budgeted.

He said that we are continuing working with Clay and Kate to update EBay procedures and accounting. There will be further information on this project in the report from the Board of Stewardship.

Earl concluded his report by urging us all to continue to be prudent with spending and to be sure the expenditure is needed.

He then reported on a letter that was received from the Texas District office – from Rev. Mike Newman (not our Mike Newman) regarding our mission contributions.

#### Annual Texas District Missions Report

- LSLC is among top 50 contributors of 398 chartered and mission congregations
- LSLC's contribution history: 2017 - \$38.2k, 2018 - \$40k, 2019 - \$43.6k, 2020 - \$46.6k and 2021 (thru June) - \$19.8k
- 148 new churches since 2004, More than 30 evangelists trained in 2020, More than 50 pastoral scholarships provided. Texas District is second-highest district contributor to national LCMS efforts, committing \$1.22M in funding this year.

#### **Financial Secretary's Report – Mark Lamprecht**

No Report

#### **Secretary's Report – Lisa Schoppa**

No Report

#### **Board of Evangelism and Mission – John Burg**

We are working to make LHM resources more easily accessible; possibly by “advertising” or calling attention to sermon topics or Bible study topics with short 2-3 minute videos on the screens before church. This might entice people to go to the website for additional information or further study. Pastor Bailes commented that before the Sunday school hour would be a more appropriate time, as anything during the church time should be worship directed.

On Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> we will be providing breakfast to all of the new MISD teachers in the Montgomery Independent School District at no cost to us. Donations of food and food service will be needed. It will be held at the MISD Administration Building.

Peggy Heintschel continues to write notes to first time visitors and John Walling continues to call visitors that have attended multiple times.

The Oktoberfest and Auto Show is scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **Board of Christian Growth – Andrea Mascardo**

VBS 2021 was an outreach success, thanks to 27 volunteers.

- 14 of 48 registered participants had no connection to LSLC
- 12 were members
- 12 were relatives of members (grandkids, cousins, etc.)
- 6 were friends of member participants
- 4 were new to the area

We have 14 children and youth attending Camp Lone Star July 11<sup>th</sup> –July 16<sup>th</sup>. Cheryl Bailes will be going with them for the first half of the week and then Tim and Tiffany Mattfeld will be taking her place.

Confirmation (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>) and Pre-Confirmation will start after Labor Day.

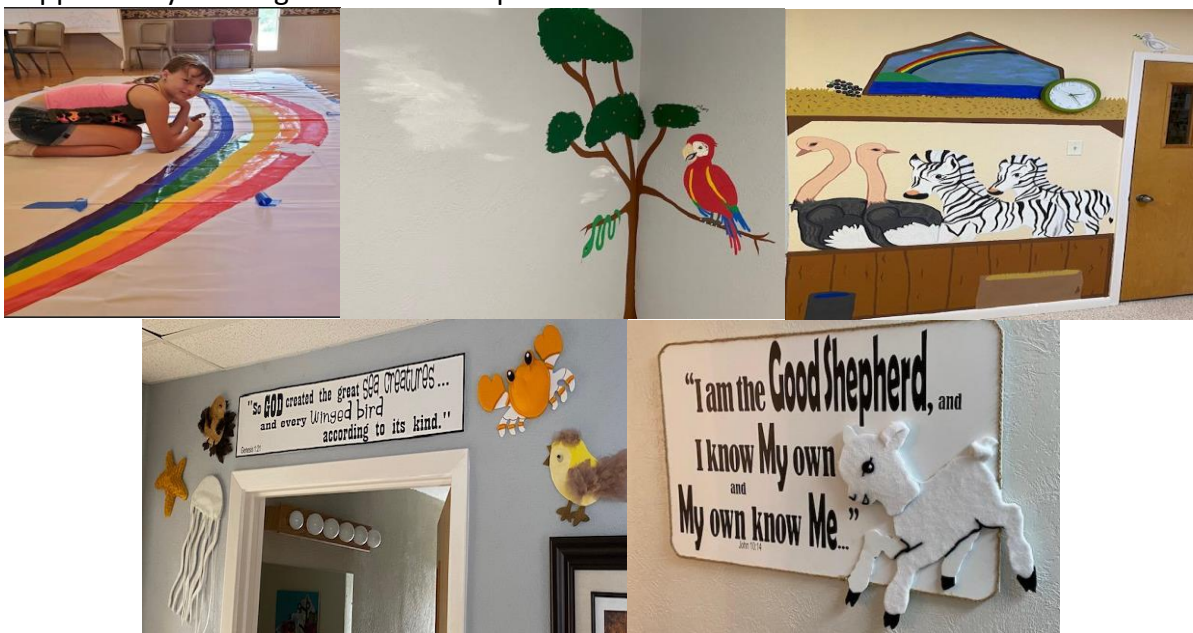
Children's Ministry Pool Party will be at the Barnes' home Sunday, Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00pm.

The annual Sunday School Retreat will be held at Camp Lone Star September 10 – 11 for 1st through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.

On Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup> there will be a Ladies Night Out at Salem Lutheran in Tomball for any ladies of the congregation to attend.

Cheryl will be resuming the monthly Women's Bible Study Over Supper again in September.

The following slides are pictures of the completed mural painting upstairs in the Family Life Building. Thanks to Cheryl, some of her MISD students, as well as Barbara Schmidt, Lisa Schoppa and Lyric Morgan for the work put into this.



**Board of Stewardship – Clay and Kate Hegar** (Absent due to travel plans)

The eBay program has begun. Items are being listed on eBay for sale and item receipts are available for donation tax purposes. Items are stored in the garage until listed. Members may coordinate with Kate or Lindsay Oneto for item drop-offs. Electronic items that still work the hottest/easiest selling items. Bigger, bulkier items (furniture, TV, etc.) are difficult to manage due to storage and shipping considerations. Volunteers will soon be needed to assist with online auctions. [Contact Clay or Kate Hegar for additional information.](#)

### **Board of Trustees – Mike Newman**

General work to keep our facility up and running is on-going.

Work continues to go on to finish out the interior of the garage. A separate storage area for eBay items is being created.

Shelving in the storage area behind the church building audio control room is also being prepared.

### **Board of Family Life – Joyce Knighten**

Planning continues toward a Church Picnic in early Spring when it's usually cooler and not as rainy.

Coordinated Mother's Day and Father's Day gift handouts were a success and many people voiced their appreciation. The handouts will continue next year.

We have resumed coordinating the between-services fellowship time snacks and beverages.

Pete Hames asked if it was okay to bring in home baked goods again. Joyce answered that it was. She also stated they are trying not to have sticky snacks because, at least for now, they are using paper plates. She mentioned that donuts and kolaches may not be the best choices to bring because uneaten ones do not keep well.

We will be assisting Evangelism with the breakfast for the new MISD teachers on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **LWML News– Joyce Knighten (LWML Member)**

- Mite donations – April thru June totaled \$324.32
- Five members attended Spring Rally at Good Shepherd, Cleveland, Texas
- Unfortunately, due to health issues, no one was able to attend the Kentucky convention
- Presented 6 confirmands gifts upon Confirmation
- Members turned out and helped with June 5<sup>th</sup> Church Workday
- Ladies assisted with after-church fellowship on June 6<sup>th</sup> LSLC Food Bank has reopened. No donations needed at this time
- Lutheran World Relief – New date for school kits is November. Watch *Notes for Today* for items needed
- No LWML meetings in July or August. Meetings to resume Thursday, September 2
- Thursday Morning Ladies' Bible Study meets every Thursday at 10:00am. Each week is a stand-alone study. All ladies are invited to attend.

### **Board of Youth – Lee Wernli**

- Cheryl is teaching Youth Sunday School class on Sunday mornings.
- The National Youth Gathering is scheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> 2022 in Houston.
- There was a Youth pool party at the Wernli's on June 26<sup>th</sup>.
- There will be a Youth lake party at the Steen's on Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.

- There will be a Zach Williams concert in Houston on Sat., Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. It is for youth or adults.

### **Board of Elders – Butch Nye**

Much thanks to Darlene Brown for taking on the task of recruiting and coordinating Ushers and Greeters for worship services. And thanks to those who have said “YES” to Darlene’s invitation to usher and greet. It’s important to remember when scheduling ushers the we really need to have an experienced usher working with the many new ushers. Earl McCaleb added that the Elder at each service could also help with first time ushers. Jack then reminded everyone that if anything needs to be addressed with a new usher, it should be done in a spirit of love and not from a political or legal stand point.

Thanks to the congregation for patience as we have transitioned back to our pre-Covid order of worship and communion.

Elders and Pastor continue to administer LSLC’s Love Fund. The application for funds has been revised to include necessary information for more effective administration.

### **Long Range Planning Committee – Pete Hames**

In a 20-mile radius of Living Savior:

- The population will grow from 414,508 in 2020 to 435,945 in 2025 and 472,716 in 2030. That is a 15% increase in ten years.
- The number of families will grow by 5.6% from 112,429 in 2020 to 118,707 in 2025.
- The age 65 and older group will grow from 67,665 in 2020 to 82,735 in 2025 and 98,659 in 2030. That is a 45% increase in ten years.
- The ages 0 to 4 years group will grow from 13,040 in 2020 to 14,027 in 2025 and 33,189 in 2030. That is an increase of 154% in 10 years.

To address some of the questions posed at our special voter’s meeting:

- The proposed design is a work in progress.
- We intend to have focus groups assist the committee in developing the final design before obtaining quotations.
- We have been in contact with the Texas District Director of School Ministry who will help us design the Sunday School and Pre-school rooms.
- It will be a shorter walk from the back parking lot to the new building because the covered drive through will extend into the grassy area.
- We will add a covered walkway between the proposed FLC and the sanctuary.

The proposed new Family Life Center supports our vision of a church, which embraces its unique heritage and is a welcoming home to all. Where generations connect faith is strengthened, and together, we touch our community with the Love of Jesus.

Jack Heintschel asked if there were any questions for Pete prior to vote to call for a motion to approve/ disapprove investigatory spend of \$30k for Family Life Building improvements at the

Voter's Meeting tomorrow. There were no questions, so Jack called for said motion. Pete Hames moved that during the Voter's Meeting on July 11, 2021, we call for a motion to authorize the Long Range Planning Committee to spend up to \$30,000 to complete the design, engineering and specifications needed to obtain competitive bids for the proposed new Family Life Center. Andrea Mascardo seconded. Motion carried.

Lisa Schoppa asked if a silent ballot would be needed. Mike Newman said that since this was just to approve a study and not to start an actual building project, a ballot is probably not necessary. Andrea asked if a ballot had been used in the past for such a vote. Pete stated that only for the final vote to approve the building project itself. Earl McCaleb said the if we wanted a real idea of how people felt, a ballot would tell a truer picture. He feels the artist's rendering of the FLC is somewhat distorted as it appears extremely large and looks like it is on top of the old Baptist church. He said it looks so big that it overshadows the sanctuary. Lisa asked if there should be a place for comments on a ballot; Earl answered that it should only be YES or NO without any name or anything else on it.

Jack then called for a show of hands – If you are in favor of a silent ballot for this question only (\$30,000), raise your hand. There were no hands raised. Jack then stated that for tomorrow's vote we would go with a voice vote and if that was close, we would then go with a show of hands.

Butch Nye mentioned that this was just a study. Andrea commented that the building may not happen for ten years. Cheryl reminded everyone that there would be several votes along the way – whether or not to have a pre-school, for example – and that each one would be separate. Joyce Knighten stated that we're not looking for funds at this time.

#### **Mission & Ministries Committee – Jack Heintschel**

No Report

#### **Church Security Committee – Roger Bartel**

No Report

#### **Pastor's Report – Pastor David Bailes**

##### **New Website**

- <https://livingsaviortexas.360unite.com/home>
- Going through final editing and testing. Will be rolled out very soon

##### **Recognition of New Members**

- The following have transferred or have completed adult instruction:
  - Tim, Martha, Chris and MacKenzie Douglas
  - Janet Herrmann
  - Terry Schomberg
  - Rhonda Maggio

### Texas District Convention – June 10-12

- Link to Convention page: <https://txlcms.org/2021-texas-district-convention/>
- Voting results can be found there.
- Highlight Video will be shared on Sunday. <https://youtu.be/LrDx3fsjlc4>

### Travel/Vacation

- July 14-25 – Vacation in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
  - Pastor Quail will be here both Sundays.
  - Joshua will have July 25<sup>th</sup> off as vacation. He has an experienced organist lined up to play that day.
- October 6-17 – Vacation in Treasure Island, Texas

### DCE's Report – Cheryl Bailes

#### Other Areas of Ministry

- Continuing as part time church staff member and full time MISD teacher
- Cheryl and Pastor on vacation July 16<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup>
- Cheryl will be at Camp Lone Star for Pastor's Wives Retreat Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>- 26<sup>th</sup>

### Unfinished Business –

Joyce Knighten had questions about the defibrillators in the church buildings. She asked if anyone had been trained or knew how to use them. Several people answered that there were directions inside each box. Pete Hames reminded Joyce that her committee (Family Life, which includes Health matters) has to periodically change the batteries in the defibrillators. Lee Wernli said that the Fire Department could do a yearly check and change the batteries and she **knew** of someone specifically she could get to do it. Mike Newman said that this task could be/maybe should be under Trustees since they were already routinely changing batteries in various other devices. He said to get on his list and he'd get the FD or whatever he needs to do. He'll take care of it as part of his Trustee duties. Jack Heintschel asked for this reminder to be included in the minutes: Jack – send Earl a note to change Health Ministries to Trustees so they can properly budget this expense (batteries, equipment, etc.).

### New Business –

Pastor Bailes left at this time to go to another meeting. Cheryl also left because the New Business item had to do with a salaried church employee.

Jack talked briefly about church organist, Joshua Pillows. Josh has been with us for six months now – a trial by fire, as he was playing for 3 services instead of 2. He has done a phenomenal job playing for those 3 services every Sunday and attending choir practices and special music practices. He is so reliable that he has even found his own substitute for his upcoming vacation Sunday. Earl McCaleb proposed that we bump up Josh's salary so that his take-home pay is increased by \$50 per paycheck (pay periods are every 15 days), which means the cost of the ~~an~~ increase will be ~~of~~ approximately \$56 per pay period. This is about a 5% increase. ~~Another increase will may come in January.~~ **Joshua's salary will be reviewed again in January along with other staff members.**



Pete Hames moved that Joshua Pillows salary be increased as discussed. Lee Wernli seconded. Jack asked for any further discussion and Butch Nye brought it up that Josh is continually trying to improve and is working toward a national certification.

The motion carried. Jack asked Earl to prepare a statement that the Pastor can give to Josh showing the amounts of his previous salary and his increased salary, and the percentage of the increase.

**Announcements –**

2021 Church Council and Voter Meeting Dates

- **Council - Saturday,** January 9, April 17, July 10, October 2 and December 18
- **Voter's - Sunday,** January 10, April 18, July 11, October 3 and December 19

**Adjournment**

Jack called for a motion to adjourn. Andrea so moved. Pete seconded.

**Closing Prayer –**

Butch Nye lead the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Schoppa, Secretary