

COUNCIL'S CORNER

June 2018

Growing *The Beloved Community* in South County through service and the creative arts.

- **Selected highlights from recent Council and Executive committee business**
 - Synod implemented a new policy regarding voting members: “Two Lay Voting Members per each called minister of Word and Sacrament serving a congregation shall be elected by each congregation related to this synod, normally one of whom shall be male and one of whom shall be female, to be voting members.” Daniel C. and Catherine H. are Advent’s lay voting members for 2018. Pastor Anita (a minister of Word and Sacrament) is also a voting member. Synod Assembly is June 1-3 in Sacramento.
 - Council voted to accept a donation of a Baby Grand Piano and have it put into Rooms 12/13.
 - Exec voted to decline the request by NorCal Music for Advent to provide fiscal sponsorship for NorCal’s activities in 2018.

- **Developing Women Leaders for the Church**
 - Planning is underway for a series of gatherings for women around this theme. Pastor Anita and Ed M. met with Karen P. and Lou Ann T. to begin to create the format for the gatherings.
 - Two introductory meetings are planned. The first will be held on Wednesday evening, June 20, from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM. A second introductory meeting is tentatively set for early August for those women who are unable to participate in June. Further gatherings will be scheduled based upon input from participants at the introductory sessions.
 - Karen and Lou Ann will lead these gatherings. Karen is a retired ELCA pastor who was on the staff of the Pacifica Synod. Lou Ann is a Lecturer at San Jose State University who previously worked as Program Director at the Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences in Berkeley and as Associate Pastor at First Lutheran Church in Carlisle, Pa. The introductory meetings will include current Advent leaders: Pastor Anita and Council President Ed M.
 - All women of Advent are invited; church membership is not required to participate. If you can attend the June 20 meeting, please contact Sherry Q. at the Advent Church office: phone 408-779-3551 or email office@advent-lutheran.org.

- **Selected highlights from some recent Council committee reports**
 - **Community Connections (Marcia N. chair):** Pastoral Partners met on May 21. Guest speaker Kyle J. spoke about how music can enrich, soothe, and deepen one’s spirituality or creativity. Participants were invited to share their experiences with music. Pastoral Partners serves Advent and can always use more people. Contact Marcia N. if you are interested. The Food & Fellowship April BBQ was very successful. Nearly 90 people attended and more than \$4000 was raised to purchase picnic tables for the courtyard and to provide better lighting in the Library.
 - **Communications (Lynn A. chair):** Advent’s YouTube channel is live; look for links on the Advent website. A rebranding discovery team is being formed to assess the size and scope of a possible rebranding project. Council approved the crisis communication policy. A mock crisis event is scheduled for staff and key leaders to practice the crisis communication procedures.
 - **Faith Development (Kris A. chair):** Children’s Time concluded for the younger children on May 27th. We eventually extended the total time from 20 min to 30 min and it went much better. 20 minutes wasn’t enough time to complete a craft or activity for either the younger or older groups. The old children completed filming a news show and now need to edit it, which they will continue over the next few weeks - timing to be worked out with Pastor Anita. Two

children were confirmed on Pentecost Sunday. The older youth are having a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday June 2 to raise funds for the Houston trip.

- **Worship & Music (Valerie S. chair):** Kyle organized the inaugural NorCal Festival Orchestra, with 8 concerts, from 5/18-27/2018, plus receptions. During the summer, Kyle will offer weekly sessions on Thursday evenings to teach people the secrets of reading music. The choir, or rather those singers who are available during the summer months, has agreed to meet an hour before the 9:30 service to be ready to offer an anthem during the service.

- **Update on some Action Items of Council**

Item Description	Responsible group & person	Status
Anti-racism training	SCORE: Janel Council to support	Next steps to be determined. Initial 1-day workshop completed & Council retreat follow-up completed.
Provide safety and first aid training to staff & Altar Guild	Staff - Sherry Exec - Ed	In progress
Reconciling In Christ (RIC)	Faith Development - Kris Exec - Pete	In progress – meeting planned for June with a Pastor who has experience with the RIC process.
YouTube Channel	Communications - Lynn	Completed – look for it on Advent’s website
Refresh Advent welcoming experience	SCORE:Engagement – Mark Council to support	In progress – All Council chairs & committee members to meet June 3 on this topic.
Growing Young focus has shifted to Children's Time during worship. Previous Growing Young volunteers: Margie Siverson, Jacqui Kanode, Daniel Carlile	Faith Development - Kris	In progress
Develop strategy to implement the vision of Beloved Community Arts Center (BCAC)	SCORE: Janel Exec: Pastor, Ed Council: Kris, Valerie S. Staff: Kyle Community members from Voices and Learning & Loving Center	In progress - co-development process used to prepare minimum viable offering from August 19 through October 20, 2018. Next BCAC meeting is June 6.
Update Financial Secretary job description to define responsibilities of this role and the role of Assistant Financial Secretary	Financial Sec’y – David Personnel Cmte – Brad	In progress

Review and update Treasurer job description to define titles and responsibilities for internal and external bookkeeping roles.	Treasurer – Norm Personnel Cmte – Brad	In progress
Examine Advent archives; use ELCA record retention guidelines to assist in determining what must be retained and what can be securely discarded.	Communications - Lynn	In progress - update photos, articles & annual reports
Recommendations to change Endowment Fund bylaws	Exec - Grant	Completed
Put together financial and practical guidelines for planning an intern year	Exec – Ed	Completed
Review and update Facility Use/Fundraising Request Form and Facility Use Rates	Exec - Brad, Ed	Completed

Guests are always welcome at Council and Executive committee meetings held in the Berkland Fellowship Hall. Executive committee meets on the 2nd Monday of each month. Council meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month. All meetings start at 7:00 PM. (Meetings are on the Advent’s website calendar, <http://advent-lutheran.org/advent-master-calendar/>).

Your 2018 Council roster:

- Ed M., President
- Brad B., 1st Vice President
- Jacqui K., 2nd Vice President
- David C., Financial Secretary
- Peter McE., Secretary
- Norm O., Treasurer
- Kris A., Faith Development
- Lynn A., Communications
- Marcia N., Community Connections
- Carrie M., Operations
- Joyce G., Stewardship
- Valerie S., Worship & Music

Respectfully submitted, Ed M.