

COUNCIL'S CORNER

July 2018

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

• **Beloved Community Arts Center (BCAC)**

- The first BCAC arts opportunity is coming together as a 10-week class schedule on Saturday mornings beginning on August 18 and ending on October 20. Classes for guitar and for drum/voice will be offered.
- ***You can help BCAC get off to a great start by volunteering!*** Volunteer positions include greeters to check children in and out on Saturdays, snack providers, grant writers, registrar, treasurer, instrument rental & maintenance, and advertising and marketing. To participate, please contact Sherry Q. at the Advent Church office: phone 408-779-3551 or email office@advent-lutheran.org

• **Selected highlights from recent Council and Executive committee business**

- Exec discussed several “Looking Ahead” topics.
 - Capital campaign – Stewardship committee is gathering information about outside consultants who could help us carry out a successful capital campaign.
 - Faith & Science – Several participants at the “Discovery & Dessert” gatherings expressed interest in this topic. Pastor Anita and Lou Ann T. are willing to facilitate, probably in 2019.
 - Pastoral intern – There’s interest in engaging a Latinx pastoral intern to start in fall 2019. (Latinx: a gender neutral term often used in lieu of Latino or Latina (referencing Latin American cultural or racial identity). Expect this topic to be on the November Congregational meeting agenda.
 - Pilgrimage to Israel/Palestine – Pastor Anita considers this a possibility in 2020.
 - Membership growth goal – What can we do to enhance membership opportunities? The two “Discovery & Dessert” meetings provided a low-key way for interested people to learn more about Advent, meet others, and tell Pastor what is important for them to become more engaged.

• **Developing Women Leaders for the Church**

- Karen P. and Lou Ann T. are leading 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.
- The first of two introductory meetings was held on June 20. Twelve women joined Pastor Anita, Ed, and facilitators Karen and Lou Ann to talk about why we’re getting together and to share some life and leadership experiences. After devotions that focused on Bible passages relating to leadership, Pastor Anita provided an overview of the APEST profiling instrument that is designed to assist people in finding their ministry style. (APEST = Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Shepherds, Teachers. Website <http://www.theforgottenways.org/what-is-apest.aspx>). Karen and Lou Ann led a closing discussion about the structure and content of future meetings.
- ***The second introductory meeting will be held on Thursday, August 9th from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM.*** All women of Advent are invited; church membership is not required to participate. If you can attend the August 9th meeting, please contact Sherry Q. at the Advent Church office: phone 408-779-3551 or email office@advent-lutheran.org.

- Expect future meetings led by Karen and Lou Ann to start in September with structure and content based on the participants' input at the two introductory meetings.
- **Selected highlights from some recent Council committee reports**
 - **Community Connections (Marcia N. chair):** The Morgan Hill Safe Car Park, now known as FOCUS, celebrated its one-year anniversary with a party for volunteers, friends, and clients. The program has been very successful but is always looking for volunteers to help. Contact Marcia N. if you are interested. The Food & Fellowship April BBQ raised money to purchase picnic tables for the courtyard; the tables are here and assembled, check them out!
 - **Communications (Lynn A. chair):** The rebranding discovery team met in June. Watch for an opportunity for the congregation to complete a brand survey this summer and to share the survey results at a meeting later.
 - **Faith Development (Kris A. chair):** A committee meeting was held in June. Children's Time will resume in mid-September and end in mid-December; it will be moved to the end of service to help with recruiting volunteers. The committee decided to stick with the lectionary lesson plans and activities. Over the summer, Kris will plan lessons for the younger group and make it easier for volunteers to lead lessons and activities. Diana G. will prepare a weekly plan for a Lego project telling the Christmas story. Advent youth and chaperones went to Houston for the National ELCA Youth Gathering and had a great experience!
 - **Stewardship (Joyce G. chair):** The committee selected people and groups to recognize in Sunday worship through the end of July. The committee also discussed how to roll out information about the Legacy Fund.
 - **Worship & Music (Valerie S. chair):** The choir is meeting on Sunday mornings from 8:30 AM to 9:15 AM to prepare music for worship at 9:30. ***If you haven't already done so, please complete the survey about your experience with our single worship service.*** Some of us received the survey in an email. There are also paper surveys at church.
- **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 - Mark led a meeting on June 3; some suggestions implemented.

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 18 through October 20, 2018. Next BCAC meeting is July 10.
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:

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

Respectfully submitted, Ed M.