

COUNCIL'S CORNER

October 2018

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

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

- We are more than halfway through the first offering of BCAC arts classes. The Intercambio Potluck was a great success! At least 40 BCAC parents and their children and BCAC volunteers joined members and friends of Advent for delicious food and wonderful conversation in Spanish and in English. There will be another Intercambio Potluck on October 20 following the BCAC student's presentation. Be there!
- The BCAC co-development team is already starting to plan our next 10-week session that is tentatively scheduled to start toward the end of January 2019 and run until the end of March. Watch for more information in the coming weeks.

• **Developing Women Leaders for the Church**

- Building on the two introductory meetings this past summer, Karen and Lou Ann planned a series of three meetings to expand and deepen the discussion of Women's Leadership at Advent. Two gatherings were held on September 11 and September 24. The third session, "Sign Me Up, or, Here's What I Suggest," will take place on Tuesday, October 2. At this gathering, participants will explore how to integrate the insights of their shared times together into personal forms of servant hood and leadership. In other words, "What's next?"

• **Murphy Frontage Improvement Project update**

- The developer of the Busk property to the north of Advent has until June 2019 to start their public improvements (curbs, gutters, sidewalks, etc.). If the developer does not act, the City of Morgan Hill could "pull bonds" to do the public improvements themselves. Our contact with the City of MH learned from the developer that the Dunne-Busk project is about 45 days away from being funded for 6 homes. However, the developer did not provide a construction schedule. Advent requested current information from the City of MH about the possibility of a low interest loan from the City for our frontage improvement. A bid of \$191,000 for Advent's Murphy Frontage Improvement project was received from the City of MH; this does not include relocation/removal of our existing monument sign and existing irrigation, or costs for landscaping, insurance, or overhead.

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

- It was moved and seconded that pending receipt of a letter from the MHPCNS board to say that they will deal with the consequences (including any fines) that may come our way if the city ends up having any issues as well as to deal with removing the coop at the time it is no longer needed or if the city changes its codes, that we approve construction of the chicken coop. The motion carried. (Note: MHPCNS provided the requested letter.)
- It was moved and seconded to appoint Jacqui Kanode, Daniel Carlile, and Karen Parker to the Nominating Committee for the next year (2018-2019). The motion carried.
- It was moved and seconded to request an increase in the credit limit of the Union Bank credit cards to a combined total of \$20,000.00. The motion carried.
- Pastor received a request from Greg Sellers' campaign for MH mayor to host a free-of-charge event at Advent. Exec reviewed and discussed the ELCA guidelines on voter education, how we as Exec and Council and Congregation are stretched thin, and that a non-partisan forum inviting all MH mayoral candidates would require a lot of work on our parts. Exec, by consensus, agreed that Pastor would contact the Greg Sellers' campaign to inform them that we are not ready to accept this request.

- It was moved and seconded to continue Advent's insurance with our current carrier, Church Mutual. The motion carried.
 - It was moved and seconded to give Julie Panzica permission to use Advent as her temporary site in case of a disaster. Julie is preparing to license her home in Gilroy as a day care center and asked Advent to be a temporary site for her and the children in the event of a disaster such as earthquake or fire that made her home uninhabitable or forced evacuation. The motion carried.
 - It was moved and seconded to establish 4th Quarter Missions as follows: October for New Life Band donations and November-December for the Safe Car Park Community donations. The motion carried.
 - It was moved and seconded to rollover the Brandt Memorial Fund investment with MIF. The earnings from this fund are used to support students from Advent who attend Lutheran colleges, universities, or seminaries. The motion carried.
 - It was moved and seconded to approve the Advent Sick Leave Policy 2.5.19 Rev 0 (for PT employees working less than 20 hours/week). The motion carried.
 - It was moved and seconded to accept BookSmart's proposal for an "Advent Day." On that day, Advent would receive 25% of the after-tax proceeds from those who present a special coupon or mention Advent at the counter before purchase of regularly priced items at BookSmart. The specific day is TBD. Proceeds will be applied to Advent's General Fund. The motion carried.
 - It was moved and seconded to approve a Facility Use Request from a new AA group with a reduced fee per session with the expectation that the group will increase their fee payment up to the posted fee per session as their numbers increase. The motion carried.
- **Selected highlights from some recent Council committee reports**
 - **Community Connections (Marcia N. chair):** God's Work Our Hands Sunday, September 9, was a huge success. More than 90 To-Go bags, 30 baby kits, 15 health care kits, and uncounted school kits were assembled. A church service was held at Valley Pines (check out the Instagram post!). Meals for the firefighters at several nearby fire stations were prepared and delivered. Sew Seeds is preparing for the annual ingathering of quilts at Advent on October 13. As of last month, Sew Seeds had completed 224 quilts. More boxes are needed to pack the quilts and volunteers are needed to help load those boxes onto the truck on October 13. Contact Marcia N. or a member of Sew Seeds to offer your help.
 - **Communications (Lynn A. chair):** Rebranding interviews are continuing. A summary of the feedback from these interviews and from the online survey will be prepared. Lynn is getting bids from sign companies to replace Advent's current monument sign along Murphy.
 - **Faith Development (Kris A. chair):** Children's Time (CT) began on September 16. Children and leaders leave worship after communion for 30-45 minutes learning, Legos, and crafts. There are two groups, younger and older. Attendance has been about 6-8 children. Jill C. volunteered to do shopping for CT supplies. Jennifer H., Gina W., and Daniel C. are taking on Children's Time roles. Thanksgiving for our new volunteers! Contact Kris to help with this important Faith Development work.
 - **Operations (Carrie M., chair):** M&R projects completed: Replaced burned out bulbs in Gathering Area (David C.), replaced burned out bulbs in preschool wing and removed 2 bird nests (Carrie); two African sumac trees on east side of Advent property removed and stumps ground, African sumac trees along driveway trimmed, mulberry tree and plum tree in preschool playground trimmed (all by Pleasant Valley Tree Care).
 - **Stewardship (Joyce G. chair):** The committee selected people and groups to recognize in Sunday worship through the end of October. The fall stewardship program "Live Simply" begins on September 23 and Commitment Sunday is October 21.
 - **Worship & Music (Valerie S. chair):** The choir, in addition to regular rehearsals, is preparing for the Gospel Concert on October 7 at 5:30 PM. We have two new cantors! Pastor Lee began hosting sermon conversations in the Library following Sunday worship.

- **Updates on some Action Items of Council.**

Item Description	Responsible group & person	Status
Provide safety and first aid training to staff & Altar Guild	Staff - Sherry Exec - Ed	In progress - anticipate training Jan. 2019, plan to invite MHPCNS & BCAC to participate
Confirm that sick leave policy changes have been incorporated into Advent's policy document	Personnel - Brad	Completed – Policy 2.5.19 Rev 0 approved by Council 9/25/18
Anti-racism training	SCORE: Janel Council to support	Initial 1-day workshop completed & Council retreat follow-up completed. Next steps to be determined.
Reconciling In Christ (RIC)	Faith Devel - Kris Exec - Pete	In progress - met with Pastor experienced with RIC process. Determining how to introduce this concept to the congregation.
Develop strategy to implement the vision of Beloved Community Arts Center (BCAC)	SCORE: Kris, Janel Exec: Pastor, Ed Staff: Kyle Community members: Voices, Learning & Loving Center	Launched: 10-week arts sessions began 8/18/18; BCAC co-development team planning next session for early 2019

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.