

COUNCIL'S CORNER

February 2019

Advent Lutheran Core Values

**This is a safe place to be who you are,
God's love accepts and invites each of us to bring all of ourselves:...**

- **Beloved Community Arts Center (BCAC) –**

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

- The second 10-week session of BCAC classes began on Saturday, January 26, and will run through March 30. Classes in guitar, world percussion, and singing are being held. There are 11 families with 13 students enrolled. Some students are taking more than one class so there are 20 spaces filled in the classes. BCAC is open for children and families in South County and that, of course, includes Advent children and families. Check it out at <http://advent-lutheran.org/bcac/>
- **Looking to volunteer some time and meet new people?** BCAC volunteers can greet students and families, write grants, provide snacks, help host and support fundraisers, and pray for this new ministry and all who are involved. There will even be opportunities to improve your language skills in Spanish and English! Contact Kyle J. to help! kyle.jones@advent-lutheran.org or 408-779-3551.

- **Summary of the Congregational Meeting Sunday, January 27, 2019**

- The minutes of November 11, 2018 were approved.
- The 2018 Annual Report, the Financial Secretary's report (not included but now available), and an updating of Advent's address on p. 43 (to include P.O. Box 607, MH, CA 95038) were accepted.
- The Congregation ratified Council's appointment of Kathy P. as 2nd Vice President.
- Capital Campaign actions
 - The motion relating to hiring TAG Consulting to lead a capital campaign in 2019, which was adopted at our November 11, 2018 Congregational meeting, was rescinded.
 - The motion to hire Mission Investment Fund (MIF) to lead a capital campaign in 2019 with the capital goal to be determined by the Church Council with guidance from MIF was approved.
- Pastoral Intern action
 - There was a motion and a second to amend the motion relating to seeking a Pastoral Intern for Fall 2019, which was adopted at our November, 11, 2018 Congregational meeting, such that we would seek a Pastoral Intern for Fall 2019 provided that the expenses will not exceed the amount we already have in our set-aside fund at the end of 2018. More than a 2/3 majority approved the motion.
- The proposed 2019 General Fund Budget was approved.
- Lynnae B. and Daniel C. were elected to serve as voting members for Synod Assembly, May 11, 2019.
 - The motion to authorize Council to appoint alternate voting members if the need arises was approved.

- **Council Retreat January 12**

- Council and some staff held a one-day retreat at Mt. Cross in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Rev. Tita Valeriano, Director for Evangelical Mission & Assistant to the Bishop, joined us for part of the day. She presented some new information and perspectives on anti-racism and mission development. These are topics that Advent has begun to study through the anti-racism

workshop in early 2018 and our new community outreach via the Beloved Community Arts Center launched in August last year. Council also discussed our roles and responsibilities and began to explore Council's leadership role in General Fund giving.

- **Crisis Communication Mock Drill**

- On January 19th, Pastor texted Council and others to advise them of a **mock** crisis and requested all to meet at Advent. All of those who received the text replied. Six were able meet at Advent; one joined by phone.
- Discussion topics included what authorities to contact and what to request that they do, how to assess the threat level, how and what to communicate to Advent members and to other groups that meet at Advent, and what to do if it is decided not to hold Sunday worship at Advent.
- A list of support resources is being prepared. The list includes pastors, licensed marriage & family counselors, English/Spanish bilingual speakers, healing prayer ministers, American Red Cross contacts, and health professionals. People with these skills will be contacted to confirm they are willing to be included on the list of support resources and to provide support in the event of an emergency.

- **Selected highlights from recent Executive and Council business**

- On January 14, Exec and Council held a joint meeting to consider General Fund budget adjustments, MIF Capital Campaign Services, and discuss two other topics.
 - It was moved and seconded to accept the General Fund (GF) budget adjustments made by Council and such adjustments as Exec may approve at its subsequent meeting and present that proposed GF budget to the Congregation. The motion carried.
 - It was moved and seconded to approve the Mission Investment Fund (MIF) Capital Campaign Services as the preferred provider. The motion carried.
- Executive Committee (January 14; Council members had been excused.)
 - By consensus, Exec approved Facility Use Requests (FUR) for Zambra Spring Concert March 3 and Christopher HS Choir Concert April 15-16.
 - It was moved and seconded to approve the FUR from the Pacific Lutheran University Ultimate Frisbee Team. The motion carried.
 - In closed session, Exec considered GF budget adjustments and approved the Dec. 10 closed session minutes.
- Council (January 22) – The following actions were moved, seconded, and carried.
 - That BCAC provide wine (<\$10/bottle) and serve the wine at NorCal concert receptions with net proceeds going to BCAC.
 - To approve the FUR for a Ragtime Concert on Feb. 10.
 - That Council, as a group, will state a commitment to increase by 33% our 2019 GF giving relative to Council's 2018 GF giving and there will be 2 checkpoints to be reported on the progress through the year.
 - To give Scotty a key to access the Fellowship Hall.
 - To delete the Constitution Continuing Resolution C12.01.B2008.d.
 - To accept the revised Worship and Music job description.
 - To make the MIF campaign a comprehensive campaign for capital, general fund, and legacy fund.

- **Selected highlights from some recent Council committee reports**

- **Communications (Lynn A. Chair)** – Actively searching for new people to join the Communications ministry. A Spanish speaker would be a huge plus. (Contact Lynn about this opportunity.) Some highlights from the Council Conversation on rebranding include:

resistance to accept our community is 46% Hispanic, desire to participate in making the decision about rebranding, some strong opinions about keeping the word “Lutheran”, and we are in a “time of great confusion.” The Committee is considering requesting a revision of the Constitution Continuing Resolution C12.01.E2008 that covers Communications Committee objectives to make those objectives more strategic. Pastor’s sermons are now posted on our website (<http://advent-lutheran.org/about/sermon-recordings/>). You can listen to a sermon again and hear one you missed when you were traveling, ill, or unable to attend worship.

- **Community Connections (Catherine H. Chair)** – Seeking someone to lead the Community Table ministry as Marianne Glover is stepping down at the end of 2019. ([Contact Catherine to discuss this opportunity.](#)) This is a great ministry with a long history and is known throughout South County. Sew Seeds has resumed making more quilts after the holidays. Food & Fellowship has 26 active members and 11 substitutes.
- **Faith Development (Kris A. Chair)** - Children’s Time resumed on Jan. 13. Five new volunteers! Hannah C., Laura and Megan McC., Megan G., and Valerie C. Kris is looking for chaperones who are safe-community-trained to accompany high school youth to a weekend retreat at Mt. Cross. ([Contact Kris if you can help.](#)) Kris is talking with Kathy P. (2nd VP) about Faith Development working together with the quarterly missions.
- **Operations (Carrie M. Chair)** – Light bulbs changed out & exterior light timers adjusted (Carrie), dead rosemary bushes along driveway removed (Grant).
- **Stewardship (Joyce G. Chair)** – “Did You Know” recognition completed through February, Fall Stewardship Program follow-up completed, Lenten devotionals being ordered, preparations for the upcoming Capital Campaign discussed.
- **Worship & Music (Elinor M. Chair)** – Elinor prepared and presented the revised Worship & Music job description to Council, which was accepted.

• **Updates on some Council Action Items will resume in future issues of Council’s Corner**

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 2019 Council roster:

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| • Ed M., President | Kris A., Faith Development |
| • Brad B., 1 st Vice President | Lynn A., Communications |
| • Kathy P., 2 nd Vice President | Catherine H., Community Connections |
| • David C., Financial Secretary | Carrie M., Operations |
| • Peter McE., Secretary | Joyce G., Stewardship |
| • Janel J., Treasurer | Elinor M., Worship & Music |

Respectfully submitted, Ed M.