

Council Meeting

Secretary Report

February 13, 2024

In attendance via Zoom: Pastor Luther Zeigler, Erlinde Beliveau, Judy Evans, Tom Bernth, Dan Scammon, Julie Anderson, Russ Hilliard

Pastor Luther led in prayer.

New members were welcomed. Pastor Luther will distribute ELCA documentation outlining description of council roles.

Devotions: Erlinda read Dazzling from Jan Richardson's book Circle of Grace, to celebrate Transfiguration Day, and spoke of her interpretation of the poem.

Erlinda will post a devotions schedule in the drop box

Blessing: Russ spoke for both he and Jo regarding the impact Sunday's baptism had on both of them.

Thank you notes: Jim McKenna and Julie Moore

Minutes of January 2 meeting were reviewed, edited and approved online

Pastor's Report: Discussed report

Treasurer's Report: Dan

- We are ahead of last year, \$30,000 vs \$23,000. With attendance up and with better participation we should continue to see uptick in funds coming in.
- Dan will clean up in/out fund lines, i.e., Coffee Grounds
- Tim Althof provided good info in recent mtg with Dan: we used to promote missions/tasks, and members contributed outside of the budget, i.e., to pay off mortgage, buy piano, Guatemala. For future discussion we need to define responsibilities of the church, congregation. We need to offer transparency and determine who has the power to do what. Then update bylaws.

Serve the Lord: Pam

At recent Social Ministry team meeting the 2024 budget was discussed and finalized. Salvation Army was removed from the allocation list allowing the saved \$600 to be moved to Seacoast Family Promise. A list of Social Ministry volunteer activities was distributed.

Grow in Faith: Tom

Discussed National Youth Gathering in New Orleans July 16-20 for 8th-12th graders. Cost is \$425/student. Nathan is interested, and Stephanie may attend as adult chaperone.

Russ made the recommendation we offer \$1,000 to defray cost of travel for each child. Council approved.

Tom will write copy for this week's Tidings and will present at Feb 18 service.

Lara is coordinating an April youth confirmation retreat at Calumet.

Tom will continue with name tag board, using trinity symbol

Review annual meeting process:

Tom: address oft-asked questions in opening presentation

Russ: have adult forum to hear issues prior to annual meeting

Pastor Luther: show itemization on budget

Dan: Show a monthly graph or chart. Russ suggested quarterly. Dan will start end-March to gauge reaction.

Historical overview of accounts:

Dan will make a recommendation at each meeting for discussion of in/out funds not being used or that have a zero balance.

Choir Director:

First draft of job description was written by Judy Evans, Dot Kasik. Pastor Luther and Erlinde reviewed it. The job description was approved by Council. A search committee will be created.

Develop contracts for paid employees:

Russ and Erlinde will work together to create an agreement including job description, compensation, days off. A stipend will be provided to Mark D for working on days off to be added to agreement. Approved by council.

Sound System needs:

Mark will contact NEMA, company that has worked on the sound system, to evaluate and make recommendations to improve online and inline sound, in addition to addressing Dick Tipping's sound needs.

Audit Review:

Tim has volunteered to begin the process of an audit review. He has experience and will get started in the next few months.

Lockbox:

Have it placed outside to open with code. This used to be the process. No objections from Council.

Community Garden Task Force:

Proposed by Scott Carson. Approved by Council.

Property Team Update:

Craig Strehl has offered to help.

By-laws Update: Russ

It is being worked on, with a draft projected time line for April council meeting

Safe Church:

Scott wrote a synopsis of our safe church policy in 2019. Erlinde will look at minutes of 2019 council meetings to see if a policy was adopted. Mark B. and Jo will look at notes as well. Rough draft expected in two months.

Funeral Planning:

Document applauded and approved by Council.

Creation Care Report:

Can be found in Drop Box

Council Retreat:

Two weekends are being considered based on Camp Calumet availability: Pam to coordinate with Calumet. April 5-6 and April 12-13

Next Council Meeting: March 19

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Shaw