****

**May 15, 2018**

**Church Council Meeting**

**Council Members Present**: Pastor Frank Espegren, Pastor Jon Haug, Gwynnae Byrd, Lisa Berg, Bob Huckfeldt, Dean Petersen, Lisa Gardiner, Ted Norris, Karen Ross, Kim Hendricks, Joel Kimmelshue, Linda Baldwin

**Guests Present:** Lynne Gilbertson, Sarah Street, Rebekah Turnbaugh, Cindy Carroll, Susan Taylor

**Absent**: Charlene Singley, Devin Hill, Nick Zylstra

**Topics:**

1. **Call to Order @ 7:00pm - Gwynnae Byrd**
2. **Opening Devotions - Pastor Jon**
3. **Approval of Minutes - Gwynnae Byrd**

Motion to approve the April 17, 2018 minutes.

M/Karen Ross S/Dean Petersen Motion Passed 100% Approval

1. **Financial Report & Budget -Ted Norris**

The April financials show a small surplus of income over expenses and year to date there is a $42,000 favorable position. Total income and expenses for April are $144,458 and $140,371 respectively and total cash is $606,384.

1. **Pastors Reports - Pastor Frank, Pastor Jon**

* **Pastor Jon Haug**
* Parish nurses Cindy Carroll and Susan Taylor shared with the council about their duties as our faith community nurses for the past 22 years. They share a part-time position and among their responsibilities is maintaining the prayer list, and heading the Stephen Ministry, the bereavement and the eucharistic ministry programs.
* Sarah Street presented a proposal by Amy Paulson for establishing a prayground area in the sanctuary for children ages four and under.
* The guest speaker series for the senior concerns taskforce was attended by about 50 people each of the three weeks. Youth Sunday was successful and has received a lot of positive feedback from the congregation and from the participants. Confirmation will be held on June 10. The next connections fair is being rescheduled.
* **Pastor Frank Espegren**
* Attended the Lead Pastors of Larger ELCA Congregations last week
* Work on the vision statement will be tabled as we decide how to most effectively use the newly written welcoming statement
* Asked for and received support from the Council on moving forward to move Linda Baldwin’s position as Director of Administration from an interim to a permanent placement
* Call committee will be present at the June Council meeting to get Council’s input

1. **Acting Director of Administration Report - Linda Baldwin**

* Reported on the status of recently filled and open staff positions
* Report on parking lot below
* Working on a property master plan with the property committee
* County assessor’s office has approved the exemptions and will be refunding overcharges

1. **Old Business** 
   1. Constitution and Bylaws Revision Committee

Bob Huckfeldt emailed the proposed changes to the church’s constitution to the Council members before the meeting. Discussed an option to have the immediate past president of the Council serve on the executive committee after the new executive committee is formed. Motion was made to amend Chapter 13.01a to state “The immediate past president may also serve on the executive committee in ex officio status” by Gwynnae Byrd, seconded by Ted Norris and passed 100% by voice vote.

The newly revised constitution will be submitted to the Synod for approval and the committee will begin to work on the bylaws.

* 1. Parking Lot

Phases one and two of the parking lot improvements are complete and research is being done on the best way to move forward with drainage for the lot

* 1. Endowment/Special funds subcommittee

Leslie Dunsworth will also serve on the endowment subcommittee along with those previously named. The committee will begin meeting this week.

1. **New Business** **– Gwynnae Byrd**
   1. Reconciling Works

Pastor Frank stated that in September 2001 the Council voted for St. John’s Lutheran to be a Reconciling Works church. However, the paperwork was not completed with the organization to appear on their website with the designation. Rebekah Turnbaugh has drafted a welcoming statement to fulfil the requirements to complete this registration and to serve as a working document of the church’s inclusiveness. Ted Norris moved and Dean Petersen seconded to reaffirm the original vote of the Council with the welcome statement.

* 1. Paid time off policy

The called staff are governed by a call document that, as written, limits the paid time off for called staff. The result is that non-called staff that have been employees for over 10 years receive more paid time off than the called staff with the same length of employment. The Council expressed their consensus to support the personnel policy should be changed to clarify that the time off specified in a call document is the minimum amount of paid time off that a pastor should receive.. The personnel committee will come back to Council with a proposal.

* 1. Summer retreat

Gwynnae would like to hold a retreat with the Council members and the wonderers committee to formulate a vision for what is next for the congregation taking into consideration topics such as special funds to be received, updates needed in Geothe Hall. A poll will be sent to the committee to indicate availability.

1. **Announcements**  **– Gwynnae Byrd**

No announcements were made

Adjourned at 9:01pm

Next Meeting June 19 at 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Hendricks

Church Council Secretary