

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 25, 2017

MISSION STATEMENT: Our Savior's Lutheran Church is a Welcoming community, Experiencing God, Reaching Out and Raising up followers of Jesus Christ.

Members Present: Annette Haynes, Brad Haynes, Joey Warta, Kitty Hietala, Scott Blumhoefer, Maxine Remme, Pastor Deb Bergstrand, Pastor Dave Nissen, Zach Hansen, Guest: Marilyn Sharp

Call to Order: Brad Haynes

Devotions: Annette – We work best when we work together. God honors unselfishness.

Agenda – Accept/add/remove Motion by Scott Seconded by Annette to accept MSP

Addition to Agenda: Sick Leave. Motion amended by Annette and seconded by Joey to add sick leave to new business.

1. Consent Agenda:

a. **Minutes from last meeting.** Motion by Scott for approval, Seconded by Kitty MSP

b. **Staff/Committee report**

i. **Stephen Ministry update.** Stephen Ministry has given way to more Friendly Visitors. Stephen Ministry training is intense (up to 50 hours of training) and goes into areas that should not be handled by lay people.

ii. **Friendly Visitors Updates.** Need Friendly Visitors. 7 people visiting. Some bring communion. Training involves 3 meetings with Pastor Dave. Friendly Visitors need to be prompt in letting Pastor Dave know when they have visited. Monitoring for people receiving visits and how frequently is done by Pastors.

2. **Financial Report** – Scott Blumhoefer.

a. **See handouts for notes** Motion by Joey and seconded by Annette to accept the report. MSP

b. **Report from Financial** committee also from Scott.

i. **Street assessment coming.** (Not like sidewalk assessment we fought and won). About \$6,000.00 over 10 years.

ii. **Fundraising policy.** Get examples from other congregations

iii. **Kikatiti Fund** came up again. Looking for a way to handle from church standpoint without killing the project. We need to find a way for ownership

iv. **Looked at Credit Card** use in the church

v. **A thank you** to congregation in June for all they are doing from committee

3. **Old Business**

a. **Points of Information**

i. **Sound System Update**

a. We do not have final costs report. 2 reports with or without video capabilities.

b. Motion by Annette and seconded by Joey that Building and Grounds come to council with recommendations.

ii. Get to congregation with information regarding the sound system, the why (need for the new system) etc. Might be more willing to give to the fund.

4. **Strategic Plan Goal Monitoring**

i. Communication with staff as to where the goals have been met, what still needs to be worked on.

ii. Staff person needs to get to teams to report what is happening in their team.

iii. Ministry teams reports so each team have an available report.

5. New Business

a. **Marilyn Sharpe's Report.** See handouts. Marilyn verbalized some of the findings from congregational members and also offered suggestions as to what can be done. Also see discussion following this report. See handouts from Pastor Deb and from Marilyn

b. Children and Youth Ministry

i. Planning

c. Wednesday Worship.

d. Time and Talent Survey

Motion by Annette and seconded by Kitty to delay action on b, c, and d. MSP

e. **Sick Leave:** Presented by Pastor Deb.

Pastor Deb was recently diagnosed with a lump in her Thyroid. It is going to be surgically removed and examined for cancer on June 29th. Pastor Deb was asking for leave of absence from June 29th to August 2nd. This is in line with Synod policy. Up to 60 days covered fully by insurance after that we will need to study next steps. Pastor Deb is hopeful that she can come back earlier if needed or on a part time basis. All dependent on diagnosis and surgery outcome. A spreadsheet was distributed covering the preaching schedule for the time Pastor Deb will be gone. Motion by Joey and seconded by Scott for approval of leave with encouragement that a policy for sick leaves for Senior Pastor and other staff be formulated. MSP

f. After hearing Marilyn's report a discussion followed regarding how to complete the staffing when Becky leaves.

i. One view was to fill the position with volunteers. Saving money and getting more people involved in the education program.

ii. Another view was placing more of the Sunday School/Education of children in Zach's job description. This was met with some concerns as to how much Zach can handle. If youth program is to continue as it is Zach feels he needs to stay with one job description.

iii. Another view was that a staff person needs to be hired as even with volunteers a “buck stops here” type of person needs to be in place. This would be best handled by a paid staff member.

iv. Concern that the Children Youth and Family Planning Committee as well as Personnel Committee were not in on this discussion

After much discussion a motion was made that we reconvene on June 7th at 7:30 PM to continue this discussion an invitation to Children Youth and Family Planning Committee as well as Personnel committee be invited to this meeting. Motion Seconded and MSP.

6. **Communication to congregation** – Sidelites or bulletin items. Annette

7. **Next meeting** – June 7th at 7:30 PM

8. **Motion to Adjourn:** Annette/Scott MSP

9. **Lord’s Prayer** by all.

Respectfully submitted by: Maxine Remme, Church Council Secretary