

**St. John Lutheran
Congregation Council Meeting
April 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Pastor Lewton, Pastor Natwick, President Tim Wegner, Tasha Gartner, Jesse Kilwein, Darlene Pelton, Dan Pender, Jerry Schwartz, Jon Tangen, Cora Tormaschy, Pete Leno and Sandra Moos

Absent: Margaret Marcusen, Susan Moberg, Linda Splichal

Staff Attendees: Pam Weidner and Kaitlyn Olson

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Natwick led us in devotions and discussion of Chapter 2 of the book "Fear of the Other" by William H. Willimon.

Administrative Reports

Consent Agenda- Tasha made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda, Darlene Pelton seconded the motion, motion carried with no objections.

Review of most recent Financial Statement- Tasha Gartner went over the statement with the assistance of Pam Weidner.

Trustee Report- Jon Tangen reported on a possible timeline for the property at 141 5th Avenue West. Work on the north sidewalks will begin next week, with work done by Koeplin Construction. He is working on bids for the concrete within the green space. The time line included a completion date of late September. The water source has been located. The latest draft from the architect was circulated, this drawing will be presented to the Congregation on May 7th by the committee. The parking lot project has been presented to an engineer and will not be available for a couple of months.

Communications- A thank you note was received from the Stice family who received funds from the Gifts of Light Fund as they were dealing with a home fire. An e-mail from Sonnie Otto was circulated to encourage signup for hosts of the Photo Directory.

Pastoral Reports

Pastor Natwick reported that Lent was Awesome and Holy Week was Incredible, he is very thankful for being part of the ministry at St John. He reported that the Lenten Dinners brought in twice as much money as the previous year. Worship and Classes were well attended. He passed around a Dickinson Press article that appeared in the paper reporting on the Easter Vigil that our Full Communion Partners were part of. The Wednesday Night Visioning Committee has been meeting and they are looking at doing something new or refining the current activities. A Germany trip during September 6th to 19th has brought interest to 2 other people that will join Joe on the journey, he will teach and share his experiences of the trip when he returns.

Pastor Lewton reported that Lent was a lot of fun and she is sad that it is over. Lent brought a lot of yearning for learning during Adult Education. She reported that staff member Jodeen will be taking June off, she has been with St John for 10 years and Ella is back on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Stephen Ministries is meeting this evening, they are assigning members that need their services. It is Camp Sunday this week; Suzanna Moberg will speak during services and Brent Seaks will present at the Adult Forum. The Methodist Church will break ground on April 23rd at 11:30. Brian Quigley from Lutheran Social Services will preach and lead the Adult Forum on April 30th.

Unfinished Business

Legacy of Faith Campaign. The latest numbers are just shy of \$330,000! Over \$50,000 now set aside for each of these places: DVRCC and WND Synod Ministry Trust Fund! The committee will continue to work on activities to spark interest as the Campaign continues.

Visioning for the property at 141 5th Ave West- an updated draft of the property vision was circulated. Jesse Kilwein made a motion to accept the draft, Jon Tangen seconded the motion, motion carried. This draft will be presented by a committee member to the Congregation during the May 7th services.

St. John mobile app for phones and tablets for \$828 was purchased April 4, the projected launch will be April 25. We have asked the Trust Fund to fund the first year, they meet next Tuesday.

Update assets of the church, the property costs and improvements to the property located at 141 5th Avenue West has totaled \$179,659 to date. Darlene made a motion to move \$179, 659 to the property asset line, seconded by Tasha, motion carried.

Update on office space for LSS- a space in a downstairs area will be used for the office, no one has filled the vacant position that LSS has.

Policy review- the committee consists of Jon Tangen, Linda Splichal, Cora Tormaschy, Pastor Joe and Pastor Lisa. They have met once and have another meeting scheduled.

Synod Assembly voting members need to be elected at our May meeting. Currently; Sonita and Tim Wegner and Amy Wegner have agreed to attend the assembly. Darlene and Earl Pelton and Jesse Kilwein may also be candidates to attend. The assembly is June 2nd and 3rd in Minot.

New Business

Approve names of a potential Trustee to replace Bobby Kubas, who resigned last month, his term had an end date of Jan. 2018, someone needs to be appointed to fill the time remaining. Pastor Lisa brought to the Council a list of names that the nominating committee choose 2 years ago for possible Trustees. After opening up the suggestions to Council, 2 names were given to Jon and Jerry to contact.

Senior High Mission Trip update by Kaitlyn Olson, Faith Formation Director. Kaitlyn reported that 30 people have signed up for the trip. This includes 5 chaperones; Pastor Joe, herself, Angie Shilman, Trevor Conrad and Laney Herauf. Some of the activities during the trip will include working at community gardens, food banks, home building, going on an educational cruise, maybe a baseball game and working with the youth. Fundraising has gone well, they are about \$2,000 short but have many baskets for the silent auction that will take place on April 27th thru May 14th. Kaitlyn reported that her job is going well and that Elizabeth Yoder is job shadowing her right now. Kaitlyn enjoys conducting the Wednesday evening services.

Church software to keep membership and financial records is out of date and needs updating. Jerry made a motion that up to \$2,000 from the Dedicated Account, line 65- Equipment Reserve, be used to update the software, Tasha seconded the motion, motion carried.

Added Agenda Item:

Triannual Conference of Women of the ELCA- Chris Brugamy will be attending this conference. There is \$608.30 in a Donated Funds account, line #60 for WELCA, this group disbanded 7-8 years ago. Darlene made a motion to use these funds for the conference, Jerry seconded the motion, motion carried.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m., preceded by the Executive Committee at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Sandra Moos, Council Recording Secretary