

St. John Lutheran
Congregation Council Meeting
Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Pastor Lewton, Pastor Natwick, President Tim Wegner, Glenice Hanson, Margaret Marcusen, Susan Moberg, Dan Pender, Jon Tangen, Russ Murphy, Bobby Kubas, Linda Splichal, Cora Tormaschy and Sandra Moos

Staff Attendees: Pam Weidner and Amy Graves

Absent: Jerry Schwartz, Mike Parke, Christina Jorgensen

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

Linda Splichal started the meeting with discussion on the 8th chapter of the book “The Promise of Despair” by Andrew Root. At the end of our discussion, we were led in prayer.

Administrative Reports

Consent Agenda- Glenice Hanson moved to accept the Consent Agenda items and the motion was seconded by Margaret Marcusen. Motion passed.

Trustee Report- Jon Tangen reported that the sidewalks on the new property will not be replaced until next spring. Dickinson Ready Mix is removing the snow in the parking lot as a donated service. Pastor Lewton will send a Thank-you card to them.

Communications- Thank you cards from ELCA World Hunger and Great Plains Food Bank were received.

Pastoral Reports

Pastor Natwick reported that Kaitlyn Olson, Faith Formation Director has been with the church for 6 months now and everything is going well, her responsibilities have increased as she is learning.

Joe is excited to meet with a team in January to oversee the future of what Church School will look like. Wednesdays are very busy at the Church with the current program.

Pastor Lewton reported that Amy Robideau has requested help for the Stice family that lost their belongings in a house fire last week, the home was located in the Church community. Linda Splichal made a motion to gift the Stice family \$1,000 from the Gifts of Light funds, this motion was seconded by Jon Tangen. Motion carried.

Jodeen will be retiring from coordinating the Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Ministry

Project after 15 years of service. At this time, we do not have a candidate interested in the project. After discussion, Council decided that we would discontinue as the host congregation and pass the project to another church. During a worship service, we will celebrate Jodeen's dedication and success to the project. Margaret Marcusen and Cora Tormaschy will come up with a gift idea.

January 8th begins the year with a Stewardship campaign called "Abundant and Free". Adult classes during the months of January thru March will focus on this theme.

Unfinished Business

Legacy of Faith Campaign has received \$266,000 to date, this includes a donation from the Trust Fund. The Synod and Domestic Rape and Violence will come and speak during worship in the future.

Visioning for the property at 141 5th Ave West- The committee met, Todd Otto reported that JLG Architecture has agreed to design the outdoor space as a donation, they have architects that specialize in outdoor design.

Nominating Committee- As committee members Christine Jorgenson, Glenice Hanson and Mike Parke terms expire, the committee have contacted Darlene Pelton, and Jessie Kilwein with possibilities of interest to serve. Candidates for the Treasurer's position have been contacted with no definite commitments.

New Business

Approve 2017 budget- Dan Pender made a motion to accept the 2017 budget as presented, Glenice Hanson seconded the motion. Motion carried. The budget will be presented to the congregation on February 5th for approval.

Approve 2017 Trust Fund budget- Amy and Russ presented the budget to the Council. Margaret Marcusen made a motion to approve the budget, Susan Moberg seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of Annual Meeting Agenda- Glenice Hanson moved to approve the Annual Meeting Agenda, Cora Tormaschy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of Synod's 2017 Statement of Mission Support- this item will be discussed during the January meeting.

Approval of 2017 Housing Allowance for Pastor Lewton- Susan Moberg moved that for 2017 the Congregation Council designate \$25,000 to be the annual housing allowance paid to Pastor Lewton, and, further, that \$50,241 be the annual cash salary paid to Pastor Lewton. This motion was seconded by Glenice Hanson. Motion carried.

Audit Committee: has contacted Kyle Klein for a 2-year term and Seth Poland for the 1-year term. The 3rd person will be contacted and an e-mail will be sent to Council Members, notifying them of that person's commitment.

Added Agenda Items

Pastor Natwick Furniture Allowance- Margaret Marcusen made a motion that in 2017, \$2,000 of Pastor Natwick's salary be allocated as a furniture allowance, seconded by Jon Tangen. Motion carried.

ND Tax Credit Endowment (currently at Kirkwood Bank) to be transferred into the ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust – Jon Tangen made a motion that Pam Weidner, Amy Graves and Pastor Lewton be the signers on the account. Motion was seconded by Cora Tormaschy. Motion Carried

Other Discussion

Council Retreat will be held at Badlands Ministries on February 10th and 11th, 2017.

The annual meeting will be scheduled for February 5th, 2017 and will be held between services.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 17th at 7:00 p.m., preceded by the Executive Committee at 6:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Sandra Moos
Council Recording Secretary