

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
Congregation Council Meeting
May 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**

Present Pastor Lewton, Pastor Natwick, President Tim Wegner, Jesse Kilwein, Darlene Pelton, Dan Pender, Jon Tangen, Cora Tormaschy, Margaret Marcusen, Linda Splichal

Absent Tasha Gartner, Jerry Schwartz, Pete Leno, Sandra Moos, Susan Moberg

Staff Attendees None

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

Jesse Kilwein led us in devotions and discussion of Chapter 3 of the book "Fear of the Other" by William H. Willimon.

Administrative Reports

Consent Agenda Tim Wegner noted that the minutes from last month reflected March in the title and should be April. No objections - minutes were accepted.

Review of most recent Financial Statement It was noted that there was an extra \$13,003.30 in the Operating Account line.

Trustee Report Jon Tangen reported the Trustees are working with Todd Otto of the Planning Committee regarding ideas for the newly acquired lot. Next steps include fixing the driveway and packing of the ground prior to pouring the cement pathways. Hannah Rathgeber will be working on raised planting beds for her Girl Scout gold award. The Planning Committee spoke to the adult education class regarding parking accessibility. The class mentioned to pour ramp style curbs instead of having the traditional curbing. They did not feel parking was a huge problem and did enjoy the lawn on the south side of the church.

Communications None

Pastoral Reports

Pastor Natwick A Wednesday Night Visioning Task Force is in the works to re-evaluate the assets of worship and the challenges with over crowding and find a more effective way to facilitate the love for Jesus Christ. Pastor Joe spoke of a program called "Godly Play." This involves intentional storytelling and play for our youth instead of the traditional Sunday school with curriculum. The youth group saw this program in action during the mission trip last year. It does require a dedicated space and the Council felt it is a worthwhile program to check out for our youth. In the fall, he would like to facilitate a program for the 21 years of age and older called "Theology on Tap." This involves a guided discussion on various topics. Pastor Joe asked the Council if the church would be interested in hosting an overnight on July 8th for the Egan, Minnesota youth choir. Discussion was held. St. John will host.

Pastor Lewton Pastor Lewton will be gone June 4. She announced that Mackee Hoffman has been accepted to Wartburg Seminary. Pastor Lisa has been doing staff evaluations and would like to start a personnel committee to deal with evaluations and policies in keeping with the vision of the church. Short synopsis of wonderment by Music and Worship Committee regarding Thursday night services and Wednesday night services during Lent. Mentioned needing ideas for the 500th anniversary of the reformation and a possible event involving Southwest area churches to be held at the BAC. Suggestion to invite the public.

Unfinished Business

St. John mobile app launched Motion was made by Jon to purchase the app using money in line item 65, seconded by Margaret, motion carried.

Update on LSS office space No ideal space was available at St. John, however, space is available at the new middle school.

Policy review underway Policies are still under review by the committee.

Elect Synod Assembly voting members Motion made by Jon and seconded by Darlene to elect Pastor Joe, Pastor Lisa, Tim, Sonita and Amy Wegner as voting members to attend the Synod Assembly. Motion carried.

Potential Trustee to replace Bobby Kubas No one decided upon yet. One person declined and one person is now considering.

Continuing Resolution - Personnel Committee Pastor Lisa discussed the possibility of creating a personnel committee to assist her with human relation needs. It will actively assist in the performance management process in areas including: salaries, personnel practices, staff position description, and training. Upon approval by the Council, the personnel Committee shall be responsible for the implementation and evaluation of the personnel policies. Will revisit as council reviews constitution, bylaws, continuing resolutions and policies in the next few months.

Midweek Lent in 2018 Music and Worship Committee is suggesting moving the midweek Lent service to Wednesday nights instead of being held on Thursday nights. The Thursday night service would be a regular service in keeping with the Sunday service enhanced by the possibility of music.

2017 Fall Stewardship Campaign Pastor Lisa distributed a handout "Teach Me.... Faithful Financial Living is Abundant and Free." This is a tentative overview of the time line for the campaign kick-off.

Hosts for mission trip groups staying at St. John Council decided it is fine for various groups to use the church overnight. Kaitlyn Olson will greet the groups. We will try to provide a meal.

Approval of new members Motion was made by Dan and seconded by Cora to approve the following new members: Connie Connolly; Mark, Laura, Ethan & Payton Erdman; Jay, Lindsay, Murphy & Colt Grantier; James & Brenda Klein; Jon Schardin; Dallas, Taina & Gracie Traub; Isaac & Dylan Billadeau; Jessica Snyder & Jamie Keel; Trey & Jennifer Wilson. Motion carried.

Added Agenda Item St. John will extend a welcome to the new neighbors directly West of the church.

Next Meeting Tuesday, June 20 at 7:00 pm, preceded by Executive Committee at 6:30 pm

Adjournment at 8:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Splichal, Acting Council Recording Secretary