

**St. John Lutheran
Congregation Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Pastor Lewton, Pastor Natwick, Tim Wegner, Linda Splichal, Glenice Hansen, Jon Tangen, Jerry Schwartz, Margaret Marcusen, Cora Tormaschy, Mike Parke, Sandra Moos

Staff Attendees: Pam Weidner

Guests: Todd Otto and Rev. Lisa Ahlness

Absent: Russ Murphy, Susan Moberg, Bobby Kubas, Christina Jorgenson, Dan Pender

OPENING

Rev. Lisa Ahlness, WND Synod Council Member presented information of the uses of congregations Mission Support monies.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. **Consent Agenda:** motion to accept all items by Jon Tangen, second by Linda Splichal, motion carried.
2. **Trustee Report:** flooring will be installed in the basement of the parsonage, the old flooring was removed years ago due to water damage from heavy rains, no water has been detected since then.
3. **Communications:** none

PASTORAL REPORTS

4. **Pastor Natwick:** will be attending a theological conference in California. Wednesday night meals, worship, church school has been well attended, the church is very full from 6:30 to 7:30. Kaitlyn and Joe did a College Bible Study and plan to do more of them. We are still in need of Church School teachers.
5. **Pastor Lewton:** updated us on staff members Barb and Ella

OLD BUSINESS

6. **Website traffic and usage update:** written report from Communications Director, Sonnie was received.
7. **Fence for parsonage property:** Jon Tangen presented bids from Dakota Fence and Western Fencing. Dakota Fencing had the lesser bid. Linda Splichal made a motion to have Western Fencing do the project for \$3650 and use funds in the Dedicated Building Fund line item. Jerry Schwartz seconded the motion. Motion carried.
8. **Visioning for the property at 141 5th Ave West:** Todd reported on ideas that the Visionary Committee have talked about regarding the property at 141 5th Ave. West. Turning the property into green space has sparked many ideas and questions for them; will it be a garden or a park; could it be used for meditation, outdoor worship, photo ops, community outreach, would it be floral, produce or both. We viewed photos of a Grace Garden that Faith Simonieg presented to Pastor Lewton. In the next several months the Visioning Team will continue its research and with their information; council will discern how to utilize the green space in the most faithful way to Live in Service to Christ.
9. **Parking/Access:** was tabled until we get Congregational Direction. Pastor Lewton will assist in a bulletin post to ask for outside Congregational participation that would include a request for a coordinator of ride assistance.
10. **Badlands Conference Annual Meeting:** will be held on Sun., Oct. 23 from 3:00 – 4:30 pm in Scranton. Pastor Lisa and Tim Wegner will attend the Conference.
11. **Stephen Ministry Update:** A total of 12 people are taking the book study; 10 of these people have begun training that will be completed in March. Our prayers were requested for these people.

ADDED OLD BUSINESS ITEMS:

141 5th Avenue West Property Update: The closing has been completed. There will not be an auction on the salvage contents due to lack of quantity and condition of the items remaining in the home. Ken Steier will begin demolition about November 4th.

Legacy of Faith Campaign Document: Jerry Schwartz made a motion to accept the document that will be presented at November 13th Congregational Meeting, Glenice Hanson seconded this motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

12. Nominating Committee: Glenice Hansen, Margaret Marcusen and Susan Moberg volunteered to be on the committee. Pastor Natwick, Pastor Lewton and a Trust Fund Member will also join them. A motion was made by Cora Tormaschy to accept the volunteers as part of the Nominating Committee. This motion was seconded by Jon Tangen. Motion carried.

13. Date for the annual meeting of the congregation: was set for February 5th, 2017 at 9:15 a.m. The Council Retreat will be held on February 11th.

14. Healing of the Nation Ecumenical Worship Service: will be held on Nov. 8 at 12:10 and 7:00 p.m. This service will be 30-40 minutes that will inspire Hope, Unity and Healing caused by Political Community Division.

Next Meeting: Nov. 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment with The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandra Moos, Council Recording Secretary