

,Meeting Minutes
Christ Lutheran Church Congregation Council
Tuesday, August 20, 2019 6:30 pm
Craft Room, Sale Building

Vision: *“We are a visible, thriving and welcoming community of Faith, deeply committed to worshiping and serving the triune God. Our goal is to share the good news of Jesus Christ with all, while impacting the lives of those in need through mission outreach.”*

Mission: *“We are disciples of Jesus, **Growing** in faith, **Serving** our community and **Connecting** others to Christ.”*

Members present: Phyllis, Mike, Kirk, Ron, Susie, Silke, Kathy, Gary, Jim, Tami, Leslie, Pastor

Members absent: Rita, Joe

CALL TO ORDER / APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Kathy Reynolds

CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:25

AGENDA APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

OPENING PRAYER: Silke Pyrlik

DEVOTION: Silke Pyrlik

REVIEW & APPROVAL MINUTES: *July 16, 2019*

Kirk stated that he would present a devotional another time because he was unable to attend last month’s Council meeting. Gary voiced the motion to accept the minutes as written, Jim seconded the motion and the motion was approved by voice vote.

Ron gave us a brief summary of the status of our finances. Last month showed a surplus of \$30,000 plus, up 55% from last year at this time with spending that is stable.

REPORT OF STAFF

Pastor Emil Klatt

Director of Christian Life, Silke Pyrlik

Approval of Staff Reports

Director of Pre-School, Nancy Conder

Treasurer Report, Ron Julseth

MINISTRY REPORT

Administration & Finance – Gary Reynolds

Communications – Kathy Reynolds

Congregational Care – Susan Fidler

Faith Formation – Tami Kuhlmann

Fellowship – Kirk Taylor

Inviting & Welcoming – Rita Hungate

Personnel – Joe Etter

Properties & Maintenance – Jim Breland

Social Ministry – Leslie Heavener

Stewardship– Jim Breland

Worship & Music – Phyllis Rowe

Youth & Family – Mike DeMaria

Discussion:

Jim Breland passed out his updated ministry report for Stewardship and that will be added to the existing reports. Kathy stated that the timeline for the Stewardship program needs to be started at the beginning of September.

Kirk reported for the Fellowship Committee that Saturday, Oct 26, 2019 is the date set for October Fest. This is the only date available for all to attend. Details will follow in the September meeting.

Gary reported from A and F that a survey of the canopy that was lost due to the necessary removal of damaged trees was completed by the city authorities, and that the replacement of trees cut down have to be certain size and kind, such as red oak. The approximated cost is \$4,780 for the replacement of six trees. The replacement trees must meet the standards of “class 3 trees”, which are mature trees and have to be hand watered or irrigated .

Kirk made the motion to accept the decision of the city commission and to replace the diseased trees with Class 3 trees. Tami seconded the motion and a voice vote was taken. Pastor Klatt cast the sole dissenting vote.

Other areas of concern from A and F include the fact that some gutters have been damaged and bent due to the storms. They will need to be replaced in the future- \$4,000.

The windows in the conference room will receive a tint covering at a discount from Mike and Patty. The blinds have been removed. Funds for this will be coming out of the regular budget.

Gary said the whole unit for the AC in the Pre-School will need to be replaced in the near future, and proposed that we pass a motion to approve this expenditure in anticipation of the failure of this system at any time. Jim made the motion to pre-approve the replacement of these units at a cost of \$6,800. Mike seconded. Voice approval. The project can proceed when needed.

Motion to approve the ministry reports was proposed by Phyllis. Leslie seconded the motion and it was approved by voice vote.

SPECIAL REPORTS:

- Expanding our Worship Service (8:30 Service) – Tami
- Utilization of our Facility by Outside Groups/Events – Kathy

Tami reported on “Expanding our Worship Service”

Tami stated that the whole idea is to bring along a more contemporary service, slowly changing the flavor of the service. To date these changes have been made: to stay liturgical: Gather, word, meal and send will stay basically the same. The recommendation is to keep the core and slowly make changes in the music. The goal is to encourage a more relaxed environment where worshipers feel free to come in relaxed dress.

Now: The Gathering song will be making slow changes. In September, we will be singing the Creed, which we are practicing now. There will be a few more changes in store for September. Tami stated that we need to go forward with these changes even in the transition time.

Silkie also addressed that the Connected team has also been looking at the way that that service has been run. Music was an issue. Connected is now moving into a spiritual growth tool and to engage people from the outside. We are here to serve others and to connect to the community. Silkie recommended the book, “Autopsy of a Deceased Church” by Thom S. Rainer. This is a new book that addresses the way the church should reach out to the community. The core message is that Jesus wants us to go to the community to bring in the unchurched. Kathy supported these changes and stressed that it is important for us not to hold back during this time of transition. We need to stress the truth and make certain that we remain strong. A DISCUSSION ENSUED ABOUT THE CHANGES IN SOCIETY AND HOW THE SPIRITUAL COMPONENT HAS TO CHANGE WITH IT.

KATHY: UTILIZATION OF OUR FACILITY:

Kathy gave us a rundown on the Diversity Weekend: April 24-26,2020. The coalition Has not signed a contract with us, but perhaps the event will be held in heinrich hall. More updates on this event will be forthcoming.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- **Security Discussion – Rita**
Rita was unable to be here this evening, but has researched many areas of concern. Rita is looking for guidance on this topic. The “Stop the Bleeding Class” was discussed as a possible class to pursue. Gary said the company that insures us has training classes on how to react and deal with these issues. This class on stop the bleeding would be open to all.
- **Renovation Team Update – Joe or Phyllis**
*Gary reported that they revised proposal for audio visual today and will have a meeting Thursday at 3. Once that it decided, Rick will receive that information for the drawings. DPR from town completes an elevation study which is translated into a drawing given to the contractor.
Highsmith will apply for and obtain the necessary permits. Hopefully, we can start construction in mid to late Septembe.*
- **End of Year Process – Kathy**
Next month we will be doing a status check on the time frame for new Council members.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Assembly wide vote to name ELCA as Sanctuary Church: Pastor Klatt**
*At the church-wide assembly the sanctuary issue came from the floor. It was not well thought out or vetted. It was passed without any background information and subsequently, the media got a hold of the vote and a great deal of misinformation was disseminated to the public.
Bishop Eaton put out talking points directly from her office. No congregation is going to be forced to become a sanctuary, but the ELCA will support those congregations that do. Pastor stated there are a couple of families that want to leave the church because of the ELCA’s decision. We have a great deal of autonomy in our response to this situation. Leslie stated that we functioned as a Sanctuary church after the hurricane without concern about their legal status. Pastor pointed out that, for years, through Lutheran Social Services churches have assisted those seeking citizenship through due process. It was decided, after much discussion, that Pastor would draft a letter to the congregation with information that is factual concerning the ELCA’s position and our response. If approved by email by the members of the Council, this letter would be mailed to all members as soon as possible.*
- **Pastor’s Retirement:**
 - **Vote to Accept Pastor’s letter of retirement**
We have to vote to accept his letter of resignation. Gary moved that we accept Pastor’s letter of resignation on August 10, 2019. Tami seconded the motion. Voice vote. Kirk dissented.
 - **September 29 – Celebration of Pastor and Barbara’s Service to CLC**
- **5th Sunday Brunch- Pastor said he will reflect and give the congregation a pep talk.**
 - **Supply Pastor – August 18 and September 22, 2019**
- **Pastor Craig will be our supply pastor for both Sundays,**
- **Update on posting Church Secretary position – Joe**
Posting for Barbara’s position will go up ASAP. Barbara will come back to assist in training the new office administrator.

- *Update on Interim Pastor - Kathy*

Kathy passed out packets about the interim Pastor for our congregation. This included her resume and her status now. We need to consider if we want her to be a part-time interim. She would focus on particular ministries. Full time would be what Pastor currently does- 60-65 hours per week. September 1 or 8 would be a good time for us to go and listen to her with possibly a limited number of people. A person to person interview will then be conducted on site the day of the visit. Kathy will put together some talking points for calls for references. It is the practice of our Bishop not to put the same Pastor in as interim a second time.

Silkie will call Dr. Dreier, Gary will call Wynne Price, Kirk will call Laura Jackson, Phyllis will call the Rodgers. Susie may call John and Beth Rogers- or perhaps Joe or Rita.

If it works out that Dr. Mary will come, her first Sunday would be October 13, 2019. Oct. 6- supply Pastor. Bishop Voos will be asked to come on the 15th of October.

ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER

CALL FOR ADJOURNMENT- 8:40

UPCOMING

Executive Committee Meeting, Wednesday, September 11, 2019 @ 10:00am

Ministry Reports due Friday, September 13, 2019 @ 9:00pm

Council meeting, Tuesday, September 17, 2019 @ 6:30pm

Devotion: Gary Reynolds