

Corrected Church Council Minutes

Tuesday, April 11, 2017 - 6:30 pm

Meeting Location:

OSLC

OUR MISSION: Inspired by God's grace, we open our hearts to all in faith, prayer, fellowship and service through Jesus Christ.

1. The meeting was called to order by Rocky Millis. Members present were Rocky Millis, Kyle Vavruska, Rod Custer, Andy Fett, Pastor Stephan Sandness, Laura Campbell, Wendy Soulek, Dianne Miller, Deb Kimbell, Pam Englund, Larry Bakke, and Tracy Johnson
2. The agenda was amended to add an action item regarding the purchase of a Certificate of Deposit. The amended agenda was approved with a motion by Pam Englund and a second by Deb Kimbell. The motion carried.
3. March Council Meeting Minutes were approved with a motion by Tracy Johnson and a second by Rod Custer
4. The March Treasurer's Report was discussed. Income less Expense for the month resulted in a loss of \$1,511.50. This was partially due to the Bear Butte Contributions being sent out. This is a one-time annual contribution. The Bear Butte Contribution was included in the budget, but it was spread over the whole year. Additionally, a few supplies were purchased in the month of March. It was noted that April giving has been up. The Treasurer's Report was approved with a motion by Dianne Miller and a second by Larry Bakke. The motion carried.
5. Ministerial Staff Reports –

Laura –

Completed the Lenten ecumenical Centering Prayer Group. Nine individuals participated this year.

Women's Ministries - Laura noted that Laura Sandness did a great job facilitating a book discussion group using *Accidental Saints* by Pastor Nadia Bolz Weber. Laura attended the Women's Retreat at Outlaw Ranch in early April. Bear Butte Conference WELCA Spring gathering will be in Hermosa on April 22. Laura serves as Mission Action contact on that board. Laura and Mary Goddard compiled the conference report of mission projects with input from 13 conference churches. An amazing amount of mission outreach happens!

Friendship Ministry at the end of March was on the timely topic of Grieving, having lost our dear Friendship Minister, Barb Niemi.

Next Council Meeting: May 9, 2016, 6:00 p.m. at The Living Room

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Sixteen people on our New Member Shepherd Team are preparing for the New Member Dinner and Orientation scheduled for April 21. Laura is confirming sponsors for new member families.

Laura will also attend the Spring Theological Conference in Sioux Falls April 18-20.

Pastor Stephan -

Stephan noted that there have been many baptisms and funerals this Spring. There is a baptism scheduled for Easter, and a confirmation student is also being baptized.

We are coming to the end of lent. Pastor noted that the Lenten Lunch series was great this year. It was hosted at the Methodist church. OSLC will host next year. Stephan is preparing for Holy Week services.

Stephan will also attend the Spring Theological Conference in Sioux Falls April 18-20.

The South Dakota Synod Assembly takes place June 1-3 in Sioux Falls. OSLC can send 6 delegates.

Barb Niemi's passing leaves a hole in the congregation and the staff. Pastor Stephan has been working on ministry vacancies. How do we fill Barb's shoes? Rocky and Stephan agreed to approach Lisa Williams to help with some of the work that Barb N. had been doing. Lisa has been working one extra hour 4 days a week to help prepare the slideshow for Sunday services. Lisa agreed to try this approach and see how it goes. The idea is to have volunteers run the slideshow during Sunday services.

6. Committee Updates –

- a. Senior Ministry – Having a pizza party next week
- b. Mission – Preparing for Clothe-a-Kid in August

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- c. Worship – Worship in the Park during the Rally. Committee is also planning a picnic in the church parking lot for Wednesday Word on July 5th.
 - d. Friendship – Kris Garlick from Grace Lutheran in Sturgis would like to start friendship ministry there. The Friendship ministry team / committee will be assisting Kris.
 - e. Campus Ministry – Spring cleaning April 29th at The Living Room
 - f. Poperty – Todd Otterburg approach Rocky and his sons about taking over lawn care at the church and the Living Room.
7. Bells for Bell Choir – The bells have never been refurbished. It is recommended that they be refurbished every ten years. OSLC has had the bells for over twenty years. Steve Aalbu recommended a company in Pennsylvania to do the refurbishing. The total cost is \$2,061, which includes shipping. Memorial Funds will be used cover almost all of the expense. Wendy Soulek motioned to approve the proposed refurbishment of the bells. Rocky Millis seconded. The motion carried.
8. The annual meeting agenda was approved with a motion from Larry Bakke and a second from Pam Englund. The annual meeting will take place on Sunday, April 23rd.
9. The annual OSLC Church Council Retreat will take place on May 9th at 6:00 p.m. at The Living Room
10. OSLC currently has some funds in a CD. Those funds will become available this Spring. The Finance Committee recommended that those funds be combined with leftover funds from the parsonage sale. The combined funds would then be used to purchase a new CD at Black Hills Federal Credit Union. This was approved with a motion from Rocky Millis and a second by Kyle Vavruska
11. Closing Devotion – Pastor Stephan shared a devotion on the story of Job. We don't always get an answer to the "why" questions that come during grief and difficult times. However, God is always there, in every moment, in every place. Vastness doesn't mean abandonment .
12. Pam Englund motioned to adjourn the meeting. Larry Bakke seconded. Council closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

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