

Church Council Minutes
Tuesday, March 13, 2018 - 6:30 pm

Meeting Location:	OSLC	
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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 Secretary Jim Van't Land at 6:38 PM. Members present were Pastor Stephan Sandness, Michelle Keil, Deb Kimbell, Cindy Koppinger, Tammi Martin, Dianne Miller, Laura Campbell, Troy Hight, Kyle Vavruska and Jim Van't Land.
2. Cindy Koppinger shared a devotion about being a singing congregation and a singing believer. She noted that there are more than 400 references in the Bible, including Ephesians, Colossians and Psalms, that encourage believers to sing to the Lord.
3. The agenda was approved with a motion by Deb Kimbell and a second by Kyle Vavruska. The motion carried.
4. February Council Meeting Minutes were approved with a motion by Dianne Miller and a second by Tammi Martin. The motion carried.
5. Tammi Martin shared the February Treasurer's report, noting that expenses exceeded giving by approximately \$4000 for the month, and by approximately \$5600 year-to-date. The Treasurer's report was approved with a motion by Troy Hight and a second by Kyle Vavruska. The motion carried.
6. Staff Reports
 - a. Laura – has been hosting an Ecumenical Centering Prayer group on Thursdays in Lent; attended the Region 3 Deacon's Retreat in February (ND, SD and MN); hosted the annual Faith & Care Meeting, attended by 26 people, last week; will be leading services at St. James Lutheran in Belle Fourche this coming Saturday & Sunday; involved in planning and leading the Women's Retreat at Outlaw Ranch the first weekend in April.
 - b. Pastor Stephan – has been encouraged by the attendance at Wednesday Lent services that use the Holden Evening Prayer format with a focus on "quieting ourselves"; has been enjoying the Ecumenical Lent Wednesday lunches which meet at Our Saviors but hosted by the various participating churches; has begun preparing for a busy April & May that will begin with Easter on April 1 and wrap-up with Confirmation Sunday on May 20.

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7. Committee Updates

- a. Education – Deb Kimbell reported that more than 20 kids have signed up so far for summer camp; the last Kids Zone will be in April; 7th grade confirmation finishes on April 11 but 8th grade will continue to meet & conclude with Confirmation Sunday on May 20; VBS is scheduled for July 9-12.
 - b. Communication – Michelle Keil reported that progress continues to be made on defining the new website “buttons” and linkages; the next meeting is scheduled for March 21.
 - c. Mission Team – Cindy Koppinger reported that the Clothe-A-Kid planning is complete, and that with the exception of a Spartan sweatshirt, kids will be given gift cards to buy their own clothing. The goal is to raise \$20,000 and provide \$75-\$100 per K-5th grade child and \$125-\$150 per 6th-12th grade child, depending on the actual funds raised. The Missions team is requesting that the July Love-Your-Neighbor jar be used for raising funds for this cause.
 - d. Friendship Ministry – Dianne Miller noted that the team met to get better acquainted and to learn better ways of supporting each other to prevent “compassion fatigue”. She also noted that Faith Lutheran Church in Sturgis is benefiting from the training the team conducted for them to start their own Friendship Ministry.
 - e. Endowment – Pastor Stephan shared the results of the recent decisions made by the Endowment Committee; due to the increased investment proceeds, the annual amount for college scholarships to Lutheran colleges will be increased to \$750/year/student; and the Committee is making one time donations to the Camp Scholarship fund and to the High School youth going to the Annual Meeting in Houston this summer.
8. The Congregation Annual Meeting is set for April 22. The Committee to recommend new Council Members is actively working. It is noted that Committee Reports for the Annual Meeting are due March 26. It was also noted that new members will be welcomed into the congregation on that Sunday.
9. Troy Hight reported that adding heat tape for the gutter system might be a relatively low cost solution to preventing future ice dams. He also noted that it is likely that either there is insufficient

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insulation in the attic or that natural ventilation air flow has been blocked from the soffits into the attic space. Deb Kimbell made a motion, seconded by Cindy Koppinger, to authorize Troy Hight to spend up to \$1000 to purchase and install heat tape when the weather and gutter conditions so allow. The motion passed. Pastor Stephan suggested that the attic insulation also be investigated to determine adequacy.

10. Tammi Martin shared a draft of the revised Constitution that she has prepared to insure that our Constitution is in line with the recommended version from the ELCA as well as our practices. Some articles needed clarification and each of these were reviewed and wording finalized. A motion was made by Dianne Miller, seconded by Troy Hight, to accept the revised version of the Constitution as amended at the meeting. The motion passed. The revised Constitution will need to be reviewed by the Synod and also approved by the Congregation, the timing of each has not yet been determined as the By-Laws will also need to be reviewed. The Council expressed its appreciation to Tammi for her work in drafting the proposed revised Constitution.
11. Pastor Stephan shared a bid for the purchase and installation of a new sound, screen & projection system in the Fellowship Hall. Some additional electrical work will be required so a final project cost has not been established, but Pastor Stephan wanted to get the Council's thoughts before more effort was made to finalize a proposal & approval. Funding for the project would come from undesignated Memorial Funds and from the Repair & Replace Fund. A more detailed proposal will be reviewed at the April Council meeting.
12. No action has been taken on cleaning the kitchen ceiling or the range exhaust vents, but additional ideas for completing this task were discussed.
13. The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Cindy Koppinger and a second by Tammi Martin. Motion approved, and meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Van't Land

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