



Council Meeting Minutes
Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church
January 9 (Sunday), 2022, 10:15 am at church
Next meeting: February 13, 2022

“To worship God as an intergenerational praying community, learning God’s Word, and building lasting relationships as we grow in God’s love and grace.”

Members Present: Wendy Szczepanski, Rose Anderson, Miriam Flysjo, Craig Loen, Becky Hulden (via Zoom), Kathy Carlsted, Pastor Dwight Rudquist **Members Absent:** none

A. Opening Devotions – Craig

February - Pastor Dwight

B. Sharing Story- Rose, Craig

C. Pastor’s Report- Pastor Dwight

The council agreed that Pastor Dwight should ask synod leaders to help us move forward with shared ministry.

The Reopening task group will meet Thursday to discuss how to keep our members safe during this time when Covid cases are increasing at an alarming rate. He will meet with area clergy via Zoom to find out what precautions MiChiLu congregations are taking during this Covid spike.

Pastor Dwight will continue phone visits with parishioners. .

It was determined that more individual Communion cups will be ordered to follow the Covid protocol.

Pastor Dwight, Wendy and Craig attended “Tools for the Church in an Uncertain Time: Rediscovering Your Why- Purpose, Vision, Values” workshop on January 8. They briefly explained how the workshop questioned why we do things in church and how it was helpful to get to the core of our beliefs. It was suggested that the council will go through the exercise in a Saturday retreat and determine how to use the information to help First move forward with our shared ministry. Pastor Dwight will summarize the workshop and share the information with other council members.

- February 12th visits to homes

Becky will help Pastor Dwight and Angie determine what to bring to the families who are visited. (Devotionals and N95 masks were suggested) The committee will determine which families to visit.

- Lent – Ash Wednesday, March 2- in person or pre taped?

After discussing a number of options for Lenten services it was decided that Pastor Dwight would confer with other MiChiLu pastors to find out what they were doing and if we can collaborate. Most likely we will have an in person service for Ash Wednesday.

Pastor Dwight suggested meeting individually with the staff to have a conversation about how their job is going and if they need anything from the council to do their job better. Craig and Wendy would be willing to help with the process.

D. Treasurer's Report – Becky

Our offering income for December was \$2000 over budget. At six months into our fiscal year we should be at 50% of our budget. We are at 54% for income and 46% for expenses.

The PPP Loan Forgiveness paperwork was submitted on Friday, January 7, 2022.

The loan will be forgiven.

Funds available for the property project are about \$41,700.

E. Basement Water

Pastor Dwight met with the Property committee who presented two options to correct the problem with water in the basement. The council reviewed the options. We have water in the basement when it rains so it does not appear to be a water table issue.

Motion: Becky made a motion that we go with Option 1, steps 1-4, including installing commercial grade gutters and getting estimates with solid numbers so we have a complete proposal to bring to the congregation. Motion seconded by Craig. Motion passed.

F. Upcoming events

- **February 12, North Conference Assembly at 10am via Zoom- We need 2 people**
 Council voted to send Miriam and Wendy as voting members to the assembly.
- **February 26, Toolkit for church leaders, 8:30-12:15, Prince of Peace, Burnsville**
- **Ash Wednesday – March 2 wait to see if it is on Zoom.**

G. Directional Signs for church

Wendy's calls to the city were not returned. She will try to contact the mayor.

H. Motion to adjourn, second- Kathy/Rose

Respectfully submitted

Miriam Flysjo, council secretary