



## Council Meeting Minutes

Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

January 12, 2020, 10:30-12:30pm

“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 , Pastor Dwight Rudquist      **Members Absent:** none

**A. Opening Devotions** - Becky next month Miriam

**B. Sharing Story** - Craig

**C. Pastor’s Report-** Pastor Dwight

In addition to presiding over weekly church services and 2 Christmas Eve services, Pastor Dwight has met with Confirmation students periodically, made 5 Hospital visits, presided over 2 Funerals, attended meetings and organist interview and the monthly synod interim meeting.

Now that the holiday season is over he is wondering how to move forward.. How he can help make the transition to our next pastor? What our next pastor position will look like?

Possible next steps include:

- Meet again with Krista Lind
- Meet with Jerry Wahl
- Congregational survey or conversation with the council to determine what the congregation wants.
- Possible monthly coffee-time table conversations: who were we in the past, who are now, who do we want to be in the future.. We could consult the ministry site profile to see what questions there are so we know what questions to ask the congregation.

**D. Treasurer’s Report –** Becky

We took in \$18,395.75. There were 5 Sundays in December and Christmas services helped with giving. Our income for the fiscal year (from July) to date is 60% of our budget. This does not include the steeple fund. Not having to pay regular pastor salary and benefits has helped our budget. Becky will move \$9000 (from our to gift last month)

to savings. The tithed amount from that gift will allow us to give \$400 to the Samaritan fund, \$300 to Together with Friends and \$300 to the Synod.

Motion: Becky made the motion that the balance of the gift from the most recent funeral go into the kitchen fund once the lunch expenses are paid. Seconded by Rose. Motion carried.

Steeple fund \$32,014.84 This is before any memorials from Swenson funeral. Becky asked Don to contact roofing company in December but has not heard back. He is looking for 3 bids. We will have to decide on the color of the tiles. The Fick family has money for the lighting of the steeple. Joe is going to talk to an electrician about the cost for lighting the steeple.

People are wondering about a plaque with names on it of people who have given a substantial amount to the steeple fund. We don't have a precedent of having a plaque listing donors. The dedication ceremony bulletin could have an insert that lists the people who gave large contributions. Wendy will check with Jerry to see if there's a list of people who gave money.

#### **E. Stewardship – Wendy**

**Time and Talents Sheet-** We haven't done this in a few years. Wendy would like it to be part of the stewardship campaign.

**Stewardship-** We need to form a committee that is not council members. The stewardship committee can decide what to do with the time and talent sheets. Pastor Dwight will help guide the stewardship committee. People have been reading the stewardship book. We plan to set up a date to discuss the book. Possibly during coffee after church.

**Discipleship Lists-** The lists were meant as a way to ensure all members were contacted at least a couple times a year. They are not so useful if people don't call everyone on the list. We need some sort of list to ensure that there are volunteers for the jobs on Sundays.

**Coffee with Council-** The council will meet with people to discuss Ask, Thank, Tell on February 2 after the service.

**F. St. Paul Area Synod,** Toolkit for Congregational Leaders, Gloria Dei Lutheran, St. Paul, Feb. 22, 8-2:30. Pastor Dwight, Craig and Wendy will go.

#### **G. Other business**

The council received a suggestion to purchase a new lightweight metal rack for storing folding tables and folding tables. The janitor was consulted and he has been asked to provide the council with an inventory of the number of folding tables and chairs around the church, how heavy they are and how many locations around the church have chairs and/or tables stored in them.

## **H. Upcoming events**

Worship at the Lodge, Sunday, January 19, 2:00, Craig, Pastor and Michelle will go.

Meeting at Faith Lutheran Church, Balsam Lake, Sunday, January 19, 2:00- Wendy, Becky and Miriam will go

Game night – Saturday, January 18, 4-6

Ash Wednesday – February 26- We discussed continuing to have two services during lent. The morning service has not been well attended but it does serve people who don't like to go out in the evening. Maybe there are some people who could give rides.

Maybe the morning service could be at the lodge because a couple of our members live there now and we are currently doing a book study there on Wednesday morning.

Pastor will look at the materials and make a recommendation.

Intergenerational Sunday school- We discussed how to start an intergenerational Sunday school. We decided it would be best to offer activities for kids at a table in the fellowship room so the adults are in close proximity. One Sunday a month everyone would be involved in the activity. Becky, Pastor Dwight, Michelle and Julie M. will meet to determine how to proceed.

**I.Motion to Adjourn, Rose, Craig seconded**

**Next meeting Feb 9 10:30**