



Meeting Minutes

Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

February 10, 2019, 10:30-12:00 pm

“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:, Duane Olson, Pastor Mary Kaye, Don Hansen, Wendy Szczepanski, Rose Anderson, Joe Landgreen Craig Loen, Miriam Flysjo **Members Absent:** none

A. Opening Devotions- Miriam next month Pastor Mary Kaye

B. Sharing story- Wendy, PMK

C. Pastor Report-PMK made 5 visits, weather hasn’t made significant difference. Planning for the Fat Tuesday celebration with MiChiLu is proceeding. The committee will be serving pancakes, having crafts for kids, and a band made up of musicians from Trinity and Chisago Lakes and others. It will be March 5 at Center City.

Steeple project off to good start. \$6000 so far. The money came from memorials from funerals and generous givers. Council members took posters to put up around town to let people know about the chili cook off fundraiser. Posters are available for other people to hang up around town too. Please invite friends and neighbors. It was suggested that a poster be made of the steeple that shows the holes alongside of the proposed shingles so people have a visual to understand how bad the situation is. Since there is no provision in the constitution for borrowing money we will have to wait until we get all the money before we can get the steeple fixed or put other plans to a congregational vote. It is doubtful we can get a loan from the bank. In addition the rubber membrane at the base of the steeple needs to be replaced.

Racial Justice seminar on Feb 17 from 3-6. At Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran in St. Paul. \$10

D. President’s Report- Don looked into a Donation hot button for the church website. This would enable people to make online donations to church. PayPal it has a 3% charge that is taken off the amount given. Don is going to look into another company that works strictly with nonprofits to see if there is a smaller fee. The money given online can come from checking, credit card or debit card. In addition, there should be a way to designate how the money is to be used (general fund, memorial) The website will also state that a person can donate by sending a check to church.

E. Property Report – (see pastor’s report)

F. Treasurer Report. Joe reported that everything paid for and up to date. \$6000 in steeple repair fund. We are down about 6% from budget. We did not get a bump in giving for Christmas. Heating bill will be OK because Dec was warm. There are no major expenses coming up besides the steeple. In spring may need to fix parking lot next to garbage bins. Giving has remained steady since people have their money electronically deposited or send checks to church if they are gone for the winter. Motion to approve treasurer report by Duane, seconded PMK. Motion carried.

G. Other business

The nursery and room adjacent have become a storage rooms. Even though the nursery is not used on Sunday morning we need to keep the nursery as it gets used during funerals. We can make the space more user friendly by getting rid of the TV and other things that are stored there. We need to get rid of the furniture that is falling apart and ask for donations that are in better shape. If someone has furniture to donate, contact Don. This process will take a few months. Is it possible to have a rummage sale with things we no longer need?

It is possible that the space in the room next to the nursery could be used as an office space for a non profit. We cannot rent it since we would lose our non-profit status. It would benefit us without a cost to us.

Feb 17 and 18 Church youth group from the cities is coming to stay overnight at church so they can ski at Wild Mountain. PMK knows the pastor and is sure the youth will be well supervised. Pr. Rob Norris-Weber will be with this group from St. Lukes in Bloomington.

We need to start thinking of nominees for council. Joe and Don’s terms are done and they can’t serve again according to the constitution term limits. Nominating committee: Gayle, Don and Joe. Craig would also be on the ballot because he was appointed for a 1 year term to fill a vacancy, and is willing to run for a 3 year term.

Summer stretch will be June 10-14 if PMK can get enough adult volunteers to work with and drive kids to places likely no farther than Washington county. All adults working with Summer Stretch and drivers need to clear a background check and be over 25 years old. On June 13, Oak Grove will come here to go to Fawn-Doe-Rosa. People can volunteer from 9:00-12:00 or 12:00-4:00 or the whole day.

J. Motion by Duane seconded by to Adjourn PMK. Next meeting March 10 at 10:30