



Council Meeting Minutes

Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

February 18, 2024, 10:23am

Next meeting March 10

“Proclaim the Gospel and Serve our neighbors.”

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

Rose shared opening devotions and prayer. Craig volunteered for devotions next month.

Pastor Dwight, Kathy, Rose and Becky all shared stories of God’s love in our lives.

Pastor Dwight reported that the pancake supper on Fat Tuesday went well. Rose did a good job of obtaining and organizing the food. It was noted that several members from First were present.

The toolkit workshop is scheduled for Saturday. Rose, Craig and possibly Wendy will attend.

The World Day of Prayer is March 1. Pastor Justin from Immanuel is spearheading the event to be held in North Branch.

April 10-13 is Feed my Starving Children in Forest Lake. Volunteers are needed.

Don has been tapping trees. The sap is running.

Craig reported our January income of \$8,740 is shy of budget by \$1,770.83, but we are still Above budget by 1.5% thanks to the previous month being above budget. Our expenses are below budget by almost 1.4%

Our Primary checking is \$1518.54, lower than January’s report.

Our Special savings is \$2356.40, lower than January’s report.

Kathy motioned, Craig seconded, that the offerings from the five Wednesdays of Lent will be split between Feed my Starving Children and Backpack for Kids. Motion passed.

Motion by Kathy, second by Rose, to accept treasurer’s report. Motion passed.

Becky reported on the Property Committee projects. The north bathroom is updated and looks great. Bruce has been reimbursed for fixtures and paint. Joe, Bruce and Don donated the labor. A baby changing table still needs to be purchased.

The request to use the Sanctuary for a Renewal of Vows ceremony has been approved for June

22. Pastor Dwight will perform the service. Since the fellowship hall will not be used, there is no charge to use the Sanctuary.

Pastor Dwight attended the first Season of Renewal meeting with other pastors on February 1. To continue the process, the congregation has been asked to complete an assessment questionnaire. Pastor Dwight met with the consultant, Mary Frances, to begin our congregation's journey. Pastor Dwight will contact members of the What's Next Task Force and members of the congregation to form a group to represent our congregation in the Season Of Renewal quest. The first meeting for our Season of Renewal group will be May 4.

Deb Rhodes and Kathy Carlsted spoke about their missions for the Mission Moment. Becky has some more ideas for future Mission Moments but has not lined up anyone to inform the congregation about other ongoing missions.

Miriam Flysjo proposed offering Sunday School once a month for the younger children. Sunday School will be on the second Sunday right after the children's sermon with the children returning at the end of the service. Miriam offered to teach the class. Pastor Dwight will meet with Miriam to decide on a curriculum.

Lent will continue with soup and bread supper prior to the Lent Service.

Pastor Dwight will talk to Pastor Tom about Maundy Thursday and Good Friday combined services

Becky asked about an Easter vigil. Pastor Dwight wants to think about it.

We decided to order small Palm Branch bunches and some lilies to adorn the altar and the cross for Easter. Angie will order them.

Kathy motioned to adjourn, Craig seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:20.

Faithfully submitted,

Miriam Flysjo, council secretary