



Council Meeting Minutes
Church Council of First
Evangelical Lutheran Church
Saturday, April 18, 2020, 3:00-4:40 via Zoom

“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, Becky Hulden, Pastor Dwight Rudquist. **Members Absent:** Craig Loen

Next meeting: Saturday, May 9 via Zoom

A. Opening Devotions - Pastor Dwight

B. Sharing Story - Everyone shared how our families are doing during this shelter in place period.

C. Pastor’s Report- Pastor Dwight

Pastor Dwight has been very busy making videos of the Lent and Easter services. He is grateful for the help of all the people who have made the videos possible. Carli has been a big help in editing and putting together the videos. He has made some phone calls and intends to make some more calls in the near future. It’s hard to know how we should be proceeding with church business during the shelter in place period.

The current contract we have with Pastor Dwight expires at the beginning of May. After discussion the council and Pastor Dwight decided to continue with the current contract and renegotiate the terms of another contract when this shelter in place is over. Currently Pastor Dwight has recorded the hours he has worked and is being compensated accordingly.

D. Treasurer’s Report – Becky

We are still short of the \$12,000 a month we need to meet our budget but we are able to pay our bills because we aren’t paying for a .4 pastor. Direct deposits are standard month to month. The steeple repair fund is \$41,000. We received two \$1000 checks we thought were for the steeple fund but the donor informed the council that the money is meant for the general fund to ensure there was money to help pay salaries.

E. Payroll Protection Plan PPP update – Becky

We missed the window to apply for the small business loan for 2 ½ times our monthly payroll. Becky was at a virtual Zoom meeting last Monday night for church treasurers. She called our bank, left a message but by the time the loan officer returned her call there was no more money for a loan. Becky was told it is not likely there will be another federal loan program in the future but she was sent the paperwork so she could fill it out in case another loan program is approved.

A motion was made by Miriam, seconded by Becky, to complete the paperwork to apply for a possible future loan. Motion passed.

F. Lenten Offerings - Wendy

The Lent offering was \$75 on 3-1-2020. In the past years offerings have gone to Family Pathways and/or Together with Friends After discussion it was decided to give the money to Family Pathways.

G. Proposed Duane Olson/Annie Lindgren Memorial – Wendy

\$800 was given by Julie M. for a new memorial fund to commemorate stepping stones in the lives of our young people. Currently, our congregation gives each H.S. graduate a quilt made by the quilting group. Parents of children who are baptized in our church are invited to apply for \$50 to be invested with the Mission Investment Fund from the Helen Lamb Baptism Fund.

The council would like some clarification about the fund Julie is proposing. Wendy will speak to Julie. It was decided to table it until we have more information.

H. Phone tree – Becky

During this time when we can't see each other we need a way to keep in touch with people. The council discussed a few possible ways to contact the congregation. It was decided that Rose, Angie and Julie could work on setting up an organized way to call the congregation keeping prayer partners in mind.

I. Prayer concerns, prayer

Michelle and her family as her dad is very sick.

Julie M. as she works to do God's work in this place.

Council members as we make decisions in this difficult time.

Pastor Dwight as he leads us through this uncertain time.

J. Other business

What about the youth retreat scheduled May 8-10? Seems like Luther Point will have to cancel it. Pastor will ask Michelle about connecting with Luther Point. In all likelihood groups won't be able to gather.

Wendy did not ask Don about the steeple roof. Rose will call him.

Maybe suggest at the annual meeting that we have a couple of funds listed for memorials so the memorials don't get so spread out.

K. Motion to adjourn

Rose motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Becky.