



Council Meeting Minutes

Church Council of First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Saturday October 10, 2020

3:00-4:15 pm VIA ZOOM

Next meeting Saturday November 14. 3:00 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, Craig Loen, Becky Hulden , Pastor Dwight Rudquist **Members Absent:** none

A. Opening Devotions – Pastor Dwight. Next Month Becky

B. Sharing Story - Everyone shared highlights from their week.

C. Pastor’s Report- Pastor Dwight

Pastor Dwight has contacted several people in the last month and continues to record the online service and lead the inperson worship on Sunday. He also attended several Zoom meetings with MiChiLu pastors and the online Synod Assembly.

Pastor Dwight is looking forward to the online meeting with the confirmation students

Steeple repair progress- The company has started to remove the shingles and installed a water/ice barrier that is made by a company called Grace. Pastor thought that was an appropriate name for a protective material on our Lutheran church. The steeple fundraising breakfast to go event went well, raising almost \$1600 for the steeple repair fund.

Pastor Dwight will be gone Oct. 18 so the service will be online. We plan on an outdoor service October 25 and will return to online worship in November.

The possibility of some sort of outdoor Christmas hymn service was discussed. Perhaps we could demonstrate the Nativity story with different vignettes telling the story from Old Testament predictions, shepherds, and a nativity scene. We might have outdoor Christmas caroling.

D. Treasurer’s Report – Becky

September Monthly total \$9,325, which is very close to meeting our budget. We are at

25% of our fiscal year. Some of the categories are right at 25%. The budget for staff is a little higher probably because of July when the Youth Director position was still on the payroll. Becky is going to look into it.

Steeple fund- In addition to the \$1600 taken in at the fundraiser, we received \$3000 in the mail last week. There is currently \$55,708.98 in the steeple fund. We need about \$7000 more to pay for steeple repair.

There are Chisago county economic development grants available for non profit organizations. Becky will look to see if we are eligible. The grant must be applied for by Oct 21.

It appears the \$9000 donation we received last fall is in books twice. It should have gone into the Klinke fund and seems also to be in a miscellaneous fund. Becky checking into it.

Perhaps we should look into upgrading our technology equipment since online may be around for a while. We need a better video camera. It would be nice to do a live broadcast so people who can’t worship in person can watch online.

E. Celebration/Dedication of Steeple

It would be nice to have the celebration on Nov 1, which is All Saints Sunday. We would have a regular service starting at 10:30 which would include the dedication. We will invite Pastor Mary Kaye since she was instrumental in starting the fundraising for the steeple repair. We could hand out old shingles as part of the festivities. Becky will check into ordering cupcakes from the Lindstrom bakery. We need to order boxes to put 1-2 cupcakes in for people to take home and to deliver to homebound members.

Bruce C is working on the lighting of the steeple. He has talked to electricians about where to put the lights. The lighting project will take some time to complete.

F. Transition – Shared Ministry with Trinity Lutheran, Lindstrom

The council is excited about the conversation with Trinity Lutheran about Shared Ministry. Trinity has some wonderful outreach and mission work programs which are a wonderful opportunity for First to participate in. Pastor Dwight will work to put together a Mission Exploration Team to assess both what we might bring to this partnership as well as the particular needs of our congregation. The task force will probably be composed of 8 people, including council members. The next meeting will probably be October 22 and will be a combination of in person and online.

G. Motion to adjourn made by Craig, second by Rose