

Agenda
Congregational Council

St. John's Lutheran Church
August 27, 2019 | 7:00 p.m.

Prayer - We begin our meeting centered in the presence of God. Silence, then opening prayer led by Erik Holleque.

1. Future Dates

- a. Boards - Tuesday, September 10. Treats provided by Stewardship at 6:45 p.m.
Reminder: Please contact your board members prior to the meeting and remind them.
- b. Council - Tuesday, September 24, 2019, 7:00 p.m.; Mary Hoff/Alene Moesler, prayer.

2. Financial Report

3. Pastor's Report

- a. Grace Overflowing project updates
- b. Churchwide discussions and actions around sanctuary
- c. Personnel updates

4. Council Action Items and Updates

- a. Stewardship - cost of giving envelopes & online giving

5. Consent Agenda Items

6. **Prayer** - The president leads a prayer asking God's grace and help on our ministry. Lord's prayer: after the president's prayer is concluded, we finish the meeting praying the prayer Jesus taught us.

7. Adjournment follows.

Children's Ministry and Education Committee
Minutes, August 7, 2019

Members Present: Staff Members Julie Brehmer, Kris Vatter, Amy McBroom, and Erik Holleque

We began by talking about the nursery. Cleaning day will be Sunday, August 25, after the 10:00 service. Lunch afterwards. The workers from St. Olaf will be coming back for staffing the nursery, and more helpers are needed. Julie will follow up on that.

We spent time talking about volunteers for Sunday School. Members of the board will help contacting prospective volunteers. Start date is Sept. 15, a carnival day, with a congregational photo.

Wednesday programming will begin on Sept. 18, and staff will include St. Olaf students. Julie will recruit other volunteers.

We looked at the "50 Ways to Strengthen Ministry with Children" and will discuss it more at our next meeting as we consider our goals for 2019-2020.

We discussed Kids Night Out. We will consider the month of January for this event at our next meeting.

Other items for discussion included summer camp, movie morning, the Pray Ground, treats for Sept. board night, and the calendar for 2019-2020.

Thanks to Amy for hosting our meeting!

Coming up:

- Sept. 10 – Board Meeting. We bring treats.
- Sept. 11, Wednesday Orientation
- Sept. 15, First Day of Sunday School
- Sept. 18, First Day of Wednesday programming.
- Sept. 29 – 4th graders receive Catechism
- Sept. 27-28 or Oct. 18-19 Youth Blast

Submitted by,
Erik Holleque

Worship and Arts Notes
August 13, 2019

Present: Nathan Proctor, Ruth Legvold, Nancy Ordahl Kmoch

Not Present: Scott Swanson, Jennifer Edwins, Carolyn Jennings

Stewardship Brochure: Nathan will contribute specific item/ideas. Feedback from WA board (quorum): The simple “check the box” format will connect people to ideas, with more info to follow from a designated contact person. What if people could also have the option to fill out the form online vs paper copy.

Invitation postcards to October celebration (especially dinner): Nathan asked for input on finalizing mailing list additions of past music staff, youth, staff, pastors. His list is already very well “populated”.

Hearing aid loop is installed, and folks have been having success with it, if they have the t-coil embedded in their hearing tech. More education on this loop system coming soon.

The Music Interns fund has been enhanced by a large gift from the Margaret O’Leary family. Nathan sought input regarding the transfer of the intern fund to the St. John’s Foundation, where it would earn a higher rate of return. He explained that as it is now, the amount that would then become available from the foundation would fall short of the annual cost necessary to fund the internship program. We discussed the possibility of approaching those invested in the “Music and Arts” community, i.e. Chorale members and others, to contribute to a small fund that would then enhance the foundation funds enough to cover the total cost. The WA quorum felt it was appropriate to keep the name “Alice Hansen” attached to the fund if it is transferred.

Commissions will be ready for Big Anniversary Blow Out weekend.

Old Service still in the works (most likely using black hymnal) – September possibly.

Light Boxes and Windows – Where they will go? We decided! St. John’s Hall, West Wall, South of Door to restrooms. Some talk of a formal “reveal” for example lighting them for the first time (Bridge Square or Rockefeller Center Christmas tree-lighting style)

Submitted by,
Nancy Ordahl Kmoch

Stewardship Board
August 13, 2019

1. **Survey Update/Action - suspend until after Fall Stewardship drive is completed.**
 1. **Mary - Business Mgmt & Adult Ministries**
 2. **Brad - Worship & Arts, Benevolence & Social Concerns**
 3. **Duane - Evangelism**
 4. **Allen - Property & Grounds and Faith & Health**
 5. **Kristy - Children's Ministries and Youth Ministries.** Youth Ministries will review and provide response by Sept Board mtg.
2. **Survey Next Steps: How & Who?**
 1. **Draft proposal**
 2. **Distill response & draft document**
 3. **Get response from staff, Boards & council.**
 4. **Implementation strategy**
3. **July Minutes**
4. **Old Business**
 1. **Replace Mike's slot (2019 -2022)**
 2. **Board structure - terms (refer to July minutes)**
5. **Fall Stewardship Drive**
 1. **Giving and pledging data - Kristy.** Information from Bernie Renander shared with the board.
 1. **Envelope giving:** How many people give via envelope/plate offering? Mailed envelopes vs. members that pick up the envelopes at church. Allene and Mary will check with the Council about:
 1. Cost of printing envelopes
 2. Cost of mailing envelopes
 2. Can we use a question on the pledge card to find out user preference about mailing or picking up pledge cards at church?
 3. Online giving costs: what is the percentage charged by Vanco?
 2. **Status of summary paragraphs & supporting Bible verses**
 1. **9/29 - Youth (Brad)** Ephesians 3:16-17
 2. **11/10 - Caring for the Earth (Allene)** Jeremiah. Allene revised the text proposed. Allene checked the ELCA website for content related to caring for the earth. Mary reminded the group that we want to be able to create bullet points.
 3. **Congregation and Community relationships (Duane)** Allene will work on the content for this segment.
 3. **Brochure status**
 1. **Design/General format. Tree concept (Allene)** Willa Kmoch designed a visual concept for a trifold brochure. Use of the Oak tree to represent the three elements: Youth/Caring for the Earth/Congregational & Community

relationships. The group preferred the black & white image. Kristy reminded the group that the purpose of the campaign is to ask for 1) time, 2) talent, 3) riches. "You are being rooted and grounded in love" Ephesians.

2. **Content.**
3. **Next Steps**
 1. Meet another time before the September board meeting. **August 27 12:30 pm**
 2. Include Pam and/or Jonathan, as possible.
4. **Board budget: reducing envelope costs, change distribution.**
6. **Action Assignments**
 1. Allene & Mary will request an agenda item for the Council meeting to discuss the cost of giving envelopes and the cost of online giving.
 2. Willa will design the tree based on discussion from this evening.
7. **Next meeting: September 10, 2019 6:45pm**

Faith & Health
Minutes, August 13, 2019

Members: Shirley, Guenther, Debby, Dave Nitz and Bonnie

- 1) Bonnie bought a thank you gift for her years of service as our parish nurse. It was presented at a reception July 28.
- 2) We held a social for those who have lost loved ones July 10. We hosted 4 people with meaningful exchange by those present.
- 3) Health Fair November 10, Guenther presented a list from last years Health Fair. We will table this until September.
- 4) Blood drive Monday, August 19, 1:00-7:00pm
Kristi 2:00-7:00pm
Guenther 1:00-7:00pm
Debby 1:00-4:00pm bars
Bonnie 12:15-6:30pm bars
Shirley 4:00-5:30pm
- 5) We accepted Nancy's resignation from Faith and Health for personal reasons. Guenther will ask Howard T. To consider coming back until the end of this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie

Adult Ministry and Education Board
Tuesday, July 9, 2019

Attending: Marilyn Calcutt, Genevieve Quarberg, Rob Quanbeck, Anita Hellie, Andy Nelson, and Kathleen Hanson.

Library

The Library has received a laptop computer that was being replaced from another office at St. John's. The church's computer service checked through the computer to make sure it would meet the Library Software requirements. The new software, ResourceMate has been purchased and is being installed on the computer. Work will begin to enter and cataloging the books in the Library and establish a digital card catalog for all the books within the library. This is the final step in the new library reorganization.

Berne Wood Fire Pizza Event – August 28

We are looking forward to having some St. John members join us at Berne Wood Fire Pizza at West Concord. Marilyn and Rob will be attending as well as others from St. John's!" People are urged to contact Marilyn or Rob if they need rides, directors or carpooling.

Bell Museum Trip

We are planning the Bell Museum Trip in early November. Still to be determined is the cost of the day. It is hoped that this can be a 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. trip similar to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Once the transportation has been determined as well as a lunch location information will be made available and sign-ups will take place between services on Sundays.

Climate Change and Sustainability Forums

Along with the Benevolence and Social Concerns Board we are hosting our first Forum on Sunday, September 22. Professor Ann Gothman, St. Olaf College, will speak on "Creation Care: Climate Crisis" The October 20th speaker will be Martha Larson, Carleton College. She is Manager of Campus Energy and Sustainability. The committee is working to finalize other speakers for November, January, February and March.

Senior Ministry Seminar Series

Kathleen suggested a couple of topics that would be interest to many of the members of St. John's These topics are "When the End is Near – Choices May/Will be Limited and Home Sharing. Kathleen is familiar with these topics in her work. We will discuss these further to see how we can bring this information to those who may be interested.

Small Group Ministry

- **Men's Group:** This is still being discussed. A beginning step will be to gather a few interested men to have a conversation on what this type of group may look like and how to get others involved.
- **Lydia/Paul Circle:** This is the Lydia Circle who includes men in their Bible studies for a few months in the Fall and the Spring. The Fall Study is going to be led by Pastor Luther Peterson and begins on September 11 for three months. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Gifts and Talent Survey

A copy of this survey was distributed to all Board members and everyone was urged to look this document over and come to the September meeting with comments and suggestions. The Stewardship Board has asked to have comments at that meeting.

After discussion it was decided that our next trip destination would be the Bell Museum. Genevieve will do some checking on this venue and report back to the Board. It was agreed that having someone act as trip host(s) was a positive idea and some names were suggested. This trip will probably take place in November.

Pizza Nights

It was the general consensus that the Red Barn Night Pizza night was a success. It was enjoyable having the youth and their families present as well. A suggestion for another time would be to have some kind of a banner/flag that can be placed in the area where we are gathering. Ending the evening at the home of Mark and Terry Rydberg was a wonderful way to end the evening for those who made the trip there after their pizza. A special thank you to them for hosting everyone.

The next pizza night will be BerneWoodfire Pizza on August 28. This is located near West Concord and because of the distance there is a hope of getting carpooling available. One group would leave St. John's at 4:30 p.m. and another at 5:15 p.m. A place will be marked at the pizza site earlier so folks will be able to be together for the evening.

Library

Summer Book Group: The first session of the Summer Book Group has met and it was a positive discussion. Two more books will be read; one in July and one in August.

Library Computer: There is evidently a computer that may be available for the library to use for the library cataloging software. It will be checked by the computer tech service the church uses to make sure that it will be compatible. Once this has been approved the software will be ordered and the cataloging of the books will begin.

Forums

Dates have been selected for the Forums on Sustainability and Climate Change. They are:

- Climate Crisis – September 22

- Environmental Justice – October 20
- Energy Use – November 17
- Agriculture – January 19
- Water – February 16
- Ethics and Biodiversity – March 15

Potential speakers are being contacted and more information will be available in the Voice, News Blast, Bulletin and Monitors.

Adult Vacation Bible School

The suggestion for having an Adult Vacation Bible School next summer as a means for St. John's members to join together in fellowship and learning. Discussion was held on what this event would look like and the possibility of having it for two or three evenings from approximately 6-9 pm. The Board will continue to discuss and determine if this could come together and be of interest to members of St. John's.

Youth Board Minutes

August 13, 2019

Present: Jenny Nystrom, Barry Becker; Absent: Sue Hagen, Rob Nutt, Emily Westerback, Dan Franklin, Johan Schroerer; Staff: Angie Gehring, Pastor Jonathan Davis, Emmanuel Kaghondi

- Welcome Emmanuel!
- Council Update
 - Time and Talent Survey
 - Use categories identified at volunteer retreat
 - 150 year celebration 10/24 -10/27
- YB Retreats for Building Volunteer base and 2019-2020 Calendar
 - Review minutes/calendars
- Parent/Youth Orientation Communication
 - All MS/HS together then separate, open house style
 - Communicating events: work of board; calendars; owl
 - Provide sign-up for volunteer opportunities
 - Culture of service for parents and youth
 - Meeting 8/26 at 7:30 to finalize plan
- Publicity
 - Communicating events
 - Include more specifics in subject of weekly update
 - Using social media - Instagram; Whatsapp
 - St. John's Youth only (Youth and Parents)
 - Need parental permission (less likely for younger)
 - Using Community Church Builder - possible group texts
 - Prevent inundating
 - Personal contacts/phone calls
 - Seek Youth and Parents input on communication
 - Barry will draft check box survey to give to parents/youth
- OWL update
 - Jonathan and Tamara training/teaching
 - Typically 6-8 weeks for course
 - Possibly during Lent
 - Start grades 11 & 12
 - Cap at 12-14 kids
 - Bring post-grad youth to talk about their experience with OWL

- Upcoming events – planning
 - 10/25 tentative date Mill Town Haunt
 - Go after St. John’s 150 yr silent movie event
 - Jonathan will check if conflict for 150 yr events
 - Back-up date 10/11/19
 - 11/8 Roman’s and Christians
 - Potluck family event at start
 - 11/22 Lock-in for HS
 - HS lock-in committee – allow students to plan; Board listens and helps implement

- Recent Events:
 - 6/19/19 The Sandwich Project
 - 6/19/19 Red Barn Pizza
 - 6/23-6/28/19 Camp Amnicon Flambeau River Ramble MS Trip
 - 7/10/19 Sky Zone
 - 7/12/19 Captain Marvel Movie
 - 7/13/19 150 year Congregational Picnic
 - 7/20/19 – 7/28/19 Camp Christikon - HS Youth Trip
 - 8/6/19 Night to Unite

- Additional upcoming Events:
 - 8/21/19 Feed my Starving Children – at Bethel 8:15 a.m.
 - 10/24 – 10/27/19 – 150th Celebration Capstone Event
 - See Calendars

Next Meeting: 8/26/19 7:30 at Fairfield Inn Deck – Orientation Planning