

**Agenda**  
**Congregation Council**

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**July 23, 2019 | 7:00 p.m.**

Prayer – We begin our meeting centered in the presence of God. Silence, then opening prayer led by Bonnie Peterson.

**1. Future Dates**

- a. Boards – Tuesday, August 13. Treats provided by Children's Ministry & Education at 6:45 p.m.

Reminder: please call your board members prior to the meeting and remind them.

- b. Council – Tuesday, August 27, 2019, 7:00 p.m.; Erik Holleque, prayer.

**2. Financial Report**

**3. Pastor's Report**

**4. Council Action Items and Updates**

**5. Consent agenda items:**

- a. Roof membrane - \$10,000 from Grace funds
- b. \$3,000 from foundation for social outreach (have 19,500 left in the foundation)

**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**  
**July 9, 2019**

Members Present: Staff Members Julie Brehmer and Pastor Jonathan, Kris Vatter, Rachel Brownlee, Amy McBroom, and Erik Holleque

We discussed the following:

- Ø Nursery Cleaning Day is August 25<sup>th</sup> after the second service. Pizza?
- Ø Sunday School Planning meeting, July 21 at 8:30am
- Ø Rally Sunday, Sept. 15 – gathering in circles in St. John's Hall, children and adults.
- Ø The search begins for volunteers for Sunday School
- Ø Wednesday programming will again include paid St. Olaf workers
- Ø Camp expenses – VBS was very inexpensive for our budget, and a total of \$500 came out of the summer budget for Good Earth Village Camp Registration fee
- Ø 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic – a few more volunteers are needed.
- Ø August 6 is Nite to Unite

We discussed the proposal from Adult Ministry Board concerning a few intergenerational events centered around hymns, especially hymns that the kids may not know. Julie will talk with the other board to see if they have a list of songs they would like to include.

Kristy Harms from the Stewardship board brought a sample of a time and talents survey for us to look at and to consider adding things that our board might want to include.

We looked at the Pray Ground and considered what items would be offered there for children— books, soft toys, etc.

Julie passed out a sheet entitled “50 Ways to Strengthen Ministry with Children” for our reading.

Our August meeting was changed from regular board night to August 7 at Amy McBroom's home, at 6:30. We switched serving treats with the stewardship board, so we will serve treats at the September board night, Sept. 10.

We adjourned to fellowship hall to look at the progress on the redo. Looks great!

Coming up:

- Sept. 11, Wednesday Orientation
- Sept. 15, First Day of Sunday School
- Sept. 18, First Day of Wednesday programming.

Submitted by,  
Erik Holleque

**Benevolence and Social Concerns Board**  
**Kathy Shea, Chair Notes**  
**July 9, 2019**

### Adult Education

The subcommittee from Benevolence and Social Concern and Adult Education (Jo Franklin, Kathy Schuurman, Kathy Shea, Marilyn Calcutt and Rob Quanbeck) met to decide on speakers and who would contact speakers for the series on Environmental Sustainability with 6 Adult Forums on Sunday mornings followed by the WELCA event on Environmental Stewardship in April 2020 (April 2 or 4). Speakers with background in specific areas will be asked to give an overview of the topic and also speak about what is happening locally and/or what individuals can do to make a difference.

The dates for each topic are listed below and the speaker is listed if confirmed.

September 22 - Climate Crisis – Anne Gothmann, St. Olaf

October 20 - Environmental Justice with a focus in indigenous people

November 17 – Energy Use – Martha Larson, Carleton

January 19 – Agriculture – Dave Legvold and ?

February 16 – Water – Kristi Pursell?

March 15 – Ethics and biodiversity

### Missionary Support

Because the Klines are leaving Columbia we discussed how to use the \$2000 in missionary support we have been sending them. Katie Kline worked with developing curriculum as well as providing education retreats for teachers of the four Lutheran secondary schools. IELCO rarely requests funds and is asking for funds for these schools for the building of four ‘canopy’ structures to protect children and staff from the elements (mostly blistering sun and heavy rain) during the school day. Once funds have been secured for all four schools each will build this essential structure. The consensus of the committee was to extend Katie Kline’s commitment to education by using our funds to support this project.

### Steward your gifts – Gifts and Abilities Survey

After a visit from the Stewardship Committee, we discussed the proposed time and talent survey sent out by Mike Roth in a June 24 email. General comments were

- 1) don’t have everyone fill it out unless there is follow up about what people say they are interested in doing
- 2) give more information on options
- 3) perhaps just give it to new people for now and see how it works.

## Legal Clinic

Kathy Schuurman reported that 11 people came today to the legal clinic, the most ever and some had issues other than immigration.

Sara Karki (Immigration Law Center of MN) had two summer interns (Carleton students- undergrads) who came to help. The Immigrant Law Center will be getting a new director and participation in Northfield depends on new director. The Volunteer Lawyer Network will continue to support this clinic.

Next clinic (1:30-4:30) – Aug. 13 – Jo, Sue will help because Kathy Schuurman will be out of town.

## Funding Priorities

We decided on the following from our discretionary funds:

- Community Dinner - \$200

- Mwangaza – \$300

- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service - \$1000

- Health Finders – 250

- Cannon River Watershed Project 250

We want to find out about the needs of the Greenvale snack program.

The next meeting will be September 10, 2019 and we will keep in touch via email.

**Adult Ministry and Education Board**  
**Tuesday, July 9, 2019**

Attending: Marilyn Calcutt, Genevieve Quarberg, Rob Quanbeck, David Nitz and Pastor Jonathan

**Report on the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Bus Trip**

The survey results were distributed to the committee members present. The feedback was very positive and a number of future trip locations were suggested. There was an overage of \$110.35 in receipts from this trip which will go back into the Small Group Ministry Account (this will help cover expenses incurred by the Lenten Book Read).

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 cataloguing 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.