

# Agenda

## Congregation Council

St. John's Lutheran Church  
October 23, 2018 + 7:00 p.m.

**1. Prayer** – We begin our meeting centered in the presence of God.

Silence, then opening prayer led by Jenny Nystrom. A time of silence for prayer and for gathering our hearts and minds together will precede the prayer.

### **2. Future dates**

- a. Boards – November 13, 2018 7:00pm. Treats provided by Evangelism & Communications Board at 6:45 pm.

Reminder: Please call or e-mail your board members prior to the meeting and remind them of the board meeting date and time.

- b. Council – **November 27, 2018**, 7:00pm; Mark Gleason, prayer

### **3. Pastor's Report**

### **4. Council Action Items and Updates**

- a. Foundation Fund update – Martha Erickson
- b. Hearing device update
- c. Nominating Committee updates
- d. 2019 Budget – Budget completion in December.

### **5. Consent Agenda Items for Council**

- a. Treasurer's Report, September 2018
- b. Minutes from the September 25, 2018 meeting

**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.**

## **Appendix:**

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### **Board Minutes/Notes from October 9, 2018**

#### **Adult Ministry and Education**

Oct 9, 2018

Present: Marilyn Calcutt, Anita Hellie, Andrew Nelson, Alyssa Ness, Sandra Nyvall, Genevieve Quarberg

Visiting: Pr Davis

#### **Board's Purpose**

Discussing our board's purpose again, as many of us still feel that we don't have an answer for what this board does; a lot of what used to be central duties of ours have been outsourced or have migrated to other groups/committees/individuals (kitchen activities, Forum, etc.). Thinking back to our discussions with Council, we note that we can rework our part of the constitution; create our mission based on current needs of the congregation.

What are current needs? We note a few items that have come up:

- Electronics: who ensures that hearing aids have working batteries, etc.? Ushers do some of this, but could we be of any assistance in creating systems for testing, updating, etc.?
- Place to park walkers is needed; this and other upcoming mobility issues will need to be addressed. As a board, do we become a hub for funneling issues to other boards' attention?
- Forum: per Pr David, the current system of high pastor involvement is likely not sustainable. This board may perhaps take bigger role next year.
- Lenten book read: we could take a more active leadership role, but it's nice to allow others passionate about such projects to take the reins. We're wondering what Barb Eaves & Sandi Gerdes do in coordinating it (scheduling, organizing groups, etc.). We could ask them for a precise description of their duties. Pastors choose books lately, usually.

Pr Davis notes that he's not been around much for our meetings in the past year because he wanted to give us room to explore our potential, and more closely support the Youth Board during their staff transition.

#### **Library**

Shelving is high priority, as we have good new collections that we need to house; this will need to be accounted for in future budget & schedule. Per Terry, Properties & Grounds Board has approved our plans to reorganize shelving.

#### **Budget**

Went over Bernie's notes and discussed budget at length. We plan to combine and rename a few items on our budget to make their purposes clearer; will finalize at next meeting.

### **150th Anniversary Ideas**

We discussed plans in the works for showcasing St. John's authors in library, and wonder if we might do more to draw people in. Perhaps hosting coffee hour in that space? Hold book talks with authors? We are in discussions to have more St. John's artwork displayed; wonder if it might be fun to bring some children's art up to main level from the basement at some point? More discussions to come.

### **Bus Tour**

Per Genevieve, Duane Engstrom has agreed to lead tour to ASI. Current bus cost is \$550 for 20-30 people. Admission is \$13; they can eat at Fika. Thurs Dec 6 is tentative date. Current thought is \$50.00 per person which seems steep, but includes tour, food, etc. Tabling needed for 3 Sunday's.

## ***Benevolence and Social Concerns Notes, Oct. 9, 2018***

1. Sue Sharrow will write a Voice article for the Nov. ELCA Hunger Appeal. We will do a shorter version for bulletin & news blasts in Nov. (due 10/30). Jane will get visuals for a monitor notice and bulletin boards and put Hunger appeal envelopes in pew pockets. ELCA Link: <https://elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/ELCA-World-Hunger>

2. Budget for 2019. Things to consider:

- Request from synod to increase annual donation (currently \$55,000). Board will recommend raising to \$60,000, as there has not been an increase in the past 10 or more years.
- B&SC decided in 2017 to gradually reduce funding for pajama project, reducing it to \$2000 in 2019 (from \$4000 in 2018).
- Request increase in discretionary spending to \$7000 (currently \$6000).
- Keep other items in budget the same as in 2018.

4. Bread for the World sent us a sample pack of Christmas Cards. We'll let congregations know these can be ordered from BFW if they are interested.

5. Voice article with thank you's from organizations we've donated to (Jane will write).

6. SE MN Synod trip to our mission partners in Tanzania. Trip for adults in May or June. Jane will put article in Voice, and flyer on bulletin board. Trip for youth in June or possibly later in the summer. Jane will notify the pastors and Angie to let them publicize to youth.

Next meeting: Nov.13

Children's Ministry and Education Committee  
Minutes, Tuesday, October 9, 2018

Members present: Staff Member Julie Brehmer, Sue Brockman, Jane Becker-Nelson, Amy McBroom, Kris Vatter, Scott Boehning, Erik Holleque

Toddler Time is scheduled for Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> with a new curriculum. The Sunday School kids are praying for France this month, led by Kristy Hall-Holt. The Christmas Program has been planned with the theme "Light". Jenny Pelletier will lead the music.

Fellowship Activities: In September, two St. John's kids attended and enjoyed Youth Blast and Movie morning will happen on Nov. 5.

Summer: We discussed Good earth Village as an option for kids and Julie will look into the cost. Schedules for 2019 at GEV and GLLM are available for planning after Nov. 1.

Other: We went through the budget and made a few minor allocation changes, but the total budget to be presented from our committee will be \$11,000.

We went into the sanctuary to look at space for a Pray Ground. Questions and discussions are ongoing as to the location and possibilities. One option is pulpit side and another is baptismal font side. There is a need for a written proposal so that other boards can review it and express thoughts.

Members made suggestions about new board members. We will need two replacements.

Submitted by Erik Holleque

# Evangelism and Communications Committee Minutes

October 9, 2018

Noon, St. John's Hall

## 1. September Council meeting, summary

**2. Next steps: Oral/video histories for 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary: Sunday, Oct. 14 initial interview.** Jennifer Edwins will be the initial interviewee, Sunday, October 14, Room 202, between services.

**3. Logistics for interviews: recorder, room, filing of recording.** The Board identified a room with adequate acoustics, approved ordering of a Zoom recorder, and discussed the disposition of oral history digital files.

**4. CCB: setting time for a training: setting a date.** The Board did not determine a date

**5. A-V recording equipment needs, volunteer recruitment: follow-up.** The Board will proceed with ordering of new equipment. Daniel Edwins and Mark G. will review the a-v needs of St. John's Hall and how these may be met in coordination with sanctuary a-v upgrades.

**6. Hearing related needs:** The Board is continuing to look at options regarding needs:

- A-V, software installation for closed captioning:
- Options for hearing impaired: app for phone

**7. Big screen, follow-up: recommendation? 96" diagonal screen:** not discussed

**8. November meeting: evening, refreshments:** ECC will provide refreshments and devotions at the November Board meeting.

**Faith and Health Board Minutes**  
**Tuesday, October 9, 2018**

1. Date for Health Fair – Sunday, October 21 9:45 am-10:45 am , St. John’s Hall – This is the latest list of participants:
  - Northfield Hospital – Information about their programs – Betsy Spethmann
    - Women’s Health
    - Rehab Services
    - Surgery/Endoscopy
  - Stephen Ministers/Grief booklets - Jennifer, Jo Franklin, Barbara Wilson
  - Take is to the Box information – Information on a table
  - Health Finders- Charlie Mandile/Candy Taylor
  - Blood pressure checks - Bonnie
    - Automatic blood pressure cuffs (Leah will bring these)
  - Advanced funeral planning - Andy Langehough/Jim Bierman
  - AED Training - Lynette
    - Mannequins (Leah will bring these)
  - Healthy Community Initiative – Zach Pruitt
  - Hospice/Home Health Care – Kari Cistera
  - Mental Health – Jane Rinehart and Barb Kuhlmann
  - Advanced Care Planning – member of Susan Lohmann’s Team
  - Northfield Home Care and Hospice – Kari Cistera
  - Alzheimer’s Dementia – Betsy Gasior
  - SAIL – Michael Maas
  
2. To do
  - Promote in October bulletins (Oct. 14 and 21)
  - Room set-up – We will meet on Saturday, October 20 at 9 am to set up the space
  - Jennifer will have signs printed for the fair at Carleton
  
3. Jennifer will follow up with Pastor Pam about potential plans for meeting with those whose loved ones will be honored on All Saints Sunday.
  
4. Reviewed Faith and Health Budget – 2019. Jennifer will submit budget to Bernie.
  
5. 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary contribution from Faith and Health – our Board member Guenther Moesler and his parents came to the United States after World War II, and they were sponsored by St. John’s. Guenther’s story is one that could be shared as an example of the involvement of St. John’s in helping relocate refugees to after World War II. We all think this is both a faith and health issue, and also relevant in light of the immigration issues we are facing today.

## **Properties and Grounds**

October Board notes and activities:

1. Reviewed and discussed the 2019 budget along with costs of known project needs.
2. October 13 clean up day was light with free fallen leaves.
- 3 Basement floor group met and discussed options. The main concern is the wall that sits on the flooring we need to remove. We will meet in November to check out the wall structure. Users of the space need to start planning for a period of inaccessibility. Potential cost savings include a volunteer demolition day and using a thin floor material on cement rather than digging the cement deeper and building a sub floor.

## **Minutes of Stewardship Board – September 11, 2018**

### **St. John's Lutheran Church**

Members present at the Stewardship Board meeting included Dan, Mary, Allene, Pastor Pam and Ralph. The primary agenda is finalization of stewardship campaign materials and plan.

Already completed is the initial announcement of the campaign by Dan and an initial letter to the congregation under Pastor Pam's name.

The Board approved adaptation to the commitment card and outsourcing of its printing.

The Board addressed the phrasing of the stewardship campaign themes which will be used in the final draft of materials. We had already agreed to use a "momentum" theme and goals as identified by the Church Council. Three statements were approved that will be worked into the commitment request letter and bulletin inserts. (See separate stewardship letter).

A sample letter was adapted and approved by the Board.

Three bulletin inserts were provided by Ralph. There is one for each of the three goal statements along with text boxes that compare current ministry opportunities with historical vignettes from St. John's past story. The information in these sketches was provided by the research Dan Van Tassel drew from the 50<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary booklets. These inserts were adapted and approved in concept. They will be further edited.

A temple talk theme of "why do I give to St. John's" or "how do I decide what to give" was suggested and discussed. The Board decided to ask two or three people to share their approach to giving and the talk will be given on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Various suggestions of who to ask were discussed and we will be seeking a Sunday School student, a mid-age adult and perhaps someone who has joined in the past few years.

The time table was revised and is now as follows:

- September 30 (Sun) – temple talk 1 by member of Stewardship Board summarizing the campaign objectives and encouraging full participation.
- October 7 – latest date to mail initial letter signed by Pastor Pam announcing the campaign.
- October 9 – stewardship board meets to finalize text and design of all materials (including bulletin inserts)
- October 10 – printed materials to printer or into office workflow including "ask letter," commitment card and three bulletin inserts.
- October 28 – First Bulletin Insert
- November 4 – Second Bulletin Insert
- November 11 – Third Bulletin Inserts and Temple Talk moderated by member of Stewardship Board with three short presentations (no more than total of 4-5 minutes)
- November 13 – Stewardship Board meets to assess progress.
- November 18 – Commitment Sunday when intent cards collected.
- November 25 – Reminders to return cards to church office in Voice, St. John's emails and worship announcements.
- December 4 (Tues) – Update on appeal and follow up sent with Nov. to date statements. Continued follow up announcements.

The Board placed review of a volunteer development plan on its November 13 agenda.

Ralph Yernberg

# Worship and Art

W/A N – 10-9-18

## BUDGET

A new budget item is the ASL interpreter. We as a board are confused: Budget vs. Funding. Is the expectation that funding will come from WA funds, or is it just that the interpreter will be listed in the WA budget but funded from sources outside of designated WA funds.

Conversation/Concerns:

Are there other options? Could we find local interpreters (reducing travel costs) Could we use a computerized system or an app which transcribes speech into print?

How do we weigh the value of interpreter reaching one person vs radio community reach?  
TV- one extra camera for picture on picture technology

PR for Christmas and every Sunday Ads and Website – getting the word out about this service

In order to help us determine the amount to be budgeted (how many weeks), **Nancy** will talk with Jon and Christy re: T's past recorded of use of the interpreter.

## HANDBELLS

The handbells need to be refurbished and funds are in place for that expense. They will be sent out in May right after the season is over.

## JANUARY PROGRAM/SPECIAL EVENTS

**Joe Shaw** (centerpiece of short program) volunteered to present to the choir about the history - Introduction of Joe would include setting the scene for history "Beginnings" of St. John's as birthplace of St. Olaf Choir -- Celebrating the choir as part of St. John's history.  
**Nathan** will speak to Joe regarding scope and timeframe: 5-10 minutes??

**Norwegian Treats** (not Cookies) etc.? Catered – Bon Appetit?? What was served 150 years ago?  
**Ruth L** will research some ideas. Then approach B.A. with specific ideas...AND/ OR perhaps engage congregation in providing a sample of their favorite Norwegian treat.

**Live Music** – background music to help create a celebratory atmosphere... Hardanger fiddle, upbeat music... **Carolyn** will speak to Andrea Een.

**Calendar (the takeaway element)** -- We need cost estimates for printing etc. **Nancy** will start working on a design and will also contact Leah about member units (mailings etc.) to get an estimate about how many calendars to print. **Dates:** Jan 13?? April 28 July 12 October 25- 27

**Commission** (other than Ferg's) either Easter or October (Nathan will continue to think about this but welcomes the support of the board

Submitted by Nancy Ordahl Kmoch 10-10-18

# Youth Board Minutes

October 9, 2018

Present: Jenny Nystrom, Barry Becker, Sue Hagen, Rob Nutt Absent: Beret Froehle, Dan Franklin, Elsa Nystrom, Sylvi Hanson

- Devotions and Treats – Thank you youth board for the delicious treats!
- Youth Board Nominations
  - Beret Froehle has family obligations and has decided to resign from the board until she has more flexibility and time to devote to boards
    - Rob Nutt is on the Nominations committee and has several potential asks to fill Beret’s remaining 2 year term, but welcomes any additional suggestions
- Budget Planning
  - Maintain 2018 budget amounts with following additions:
    - Additional \$2000.00 for summer trips due to increase in interest and need to defray costs (from \$6000 to \$8000)
    - Additional \$2000.00 for chaperone costs to cover increased interest (from \$2000 to \$4000)
    - \$1000 for Our Whole Lives (OWL) training to cover two trainees, including materials [initial focus - grades 7-12 Sexuality Education]
- Updates from Council/Youth Transition Team
  - Visioning Survey to parents (3<sup>rd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>) and youth (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>)
  - After compiling results and synthesizing visioning to date, move to drafting job description
- 2018-2019 Staffing and Programming Needs
  - Emerson is doing well in Youth Ministry leadership role, no additional adults needed for Wednesdays and Sundays at this time
  - Treat schedule for Sundays
    - Barry will reach out to parents and put together a volunteer treat schedule for Sundays
    - Anyone interested in volunteering can be direct to Barry
    - Angie can then include volunteer’s name in Middle School Update emails
  - 2018-2019 programming
    - Events planned for Oct-Dec (see below)
    - Youth Board members meet 10/28/18 between services in library to come up with remaining schedule
- Recent Events
  - Intergenerational Mixer 9/16/18 – (between services)
  - Confirmation Retreat 9/22/18 at Gustavus
  - Confirmation breakfast 10/13/18 and Confirmation 10/14/18
  - High School Club at Peggy’s (Cookies for Torch) 9/23/18
- Upcoming Events:

- High School Club w/Peggy- Apple Making – 10/21/18
- October Halloween Slime Making Event for Middle Schoolers
  - Nystrom hosting
  - 10/27/18 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
- November – Romans and Christians for Middle Schoolers
  - Tentatively 11/30/18 7-10 p.m.
  - Possible ‘Romans’: Emily W., Kenyon N., Emerson, Vivika (per Angie, should not be high school students based on prior feedback)
  - Gaga ball before start; break with pizza, pop and discussion seeking input for ongoing Youth Planning
- December – Pay it Forward – for Middle School/High School including families
  - Tentatively 12/8/18 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
  - Sue will check with Julie B. about details from past event
  - Bag groceries at Family Fare and give out \$5 bills w/St. John’s card and Pay it Forward message
  - Coordinate with when Salvation Army Bell Ringer
- January – Escape Room/Dinner event for High School
  - Tentatively MLK Day – 1/21/18
  - *Trapped* Puzzle Rooms in St. Paul has Harry Potter Room
- Summer Trip planning – 10/28/2018
  - Middle school – Superior Wisconsin
  - High school - Christikon

Next Meeting: **11/13/18 at 7:00**