

Agenda
Congregation Council

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

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

1. Future Dates

Boards - Tuesday, May 14. Treats provided by Property and Grounds at 6:45 p.m.
Reminder: Please call your board members prior to the meeting and remind them.

Council - Tuesday, May 28, 2019, 7:00 p.m.; Terry Dell, prayer.

2. Pastor's Report

3. Council Action Items and Updates

- a. ECC - Hearing Loop
- b. Fund distribution - Thrivent, etc.
- c. Youth hiring update
- d. 150th Celebration meeting - this Sunday, April 28 - between services
- e. Save the Date - October 24-27
 - i. Thursday, October 24 - blood drive
 - ii. Friday, October 25 - movies
 - iii. Saturday, October 26 - variety of activities
- f. Month of July - down to one service - 9:30 a.m.

4. Consent Agenda Items for Council

5. 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.

6. Adjournment follows

Children's Ministry and Education Committee

Minutes, April 9, 2019

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

We began by discussing a Passion/Palm Sunday processional with an Alleluia Banner. We decided that the Sunday School kids would make letters making up the word Alleluia for a procession on Easter Day.

Julie purchased signs from designated funds to advertise the Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, April 20 at 9:30 a.m. Volunteers are needed at 8:30.

The Prayer Buddy Get-together is scheduled for April 24 with a meal and conversation with buddies.

The cross-generational event is on May 12. The ideas were free flowing, but we settled on the following:

- Item jars for guessing the number of contents (beans, marshmallows, m&ms, pennies, no peeps)

- A spin wheel

- A craft (Julie will look for ideas for Mother's Day)

- A dunk tank (Julie will check on cost)

The 5th grade fun night with 6th and 7th graders will be on May 22. It's a time of transition into middle school for 5th graders. Activities include Romans and Christians game and Pizza.

Nursery for the summer 10:00 Sunday worship is staffed by college students and is a paid position.

VBS begins on June 10 and volunteers are needed to run stations or small groups.

We discussed ideas for Rally Sunday in September. The intergenerational gathering in St. John's Hall was well received last year. Melissa, Rachel, and Amy will help Julie with curriculum planning this summer.

Submitted by,
Erik Holleque

Property and Grounds Committee

Minutes, April 9, 2019

Members Present: Craig, Jim, Terry, Tim

Absent: Leif, Vern, Gene

Discussion items:

Reminders:

- Clean-up day still set for 4/27/19 from 9-11
- Board has treats and devotions for the May meeting. Come about 6:30 to help set up and make coffee. Bring some type of bar/fruit/cheese etc that you like.
- Bring your ideas about floor coverings for the basement to the next meeting. Bring cost estimates if you can. Roughly 3200 sq ft.

Future action items

- Tracy Hanson is set to start the Curb Cut projects (3 areas on the West side) that were delayed last year as soon as weather cooperates.
- Board approved installation of a hanging rail to hang pictures for St Johns Hall identical to the one going up in the library.

Discussion items

- Jim reported that Leif did some research and found that the sculpture name is Spirit of St John. Base is now installed.
- Discussed recommending removal of the serving kitchen walls and quilter closet moving both storage areas to the space in the old kitchen. Will need cost estimates which would include rebuilding the quilters closet. As a congregation we will need to decide in May to move forward or not. Will need to have input from the congregation.
- Discussed potential need for adding sump system if we find water issues after removing the floor. Old quote of about \$11,800.
- Radon test completed and levels in the basement are low.

Future action items

- Drainage and ice in NW parking lot near the kitchen entry door: Will need to talk with Tracy Hanson to see if the drain under the sidewalk can be removed and replaced with an opening covered by a grate.
- Slab for compost dumpster: will need to get quote for both cutting curb and placing slab at ground level for the dumpster. Best location appears North of the current dumpsters towards the street. Will need to remove a few branches and likely fence.

- Roof crew repairing over door #1 suggested removing a couple limbs that keep dumping debris.
- Section by door #6 is leaking and Mark Polzine was called to help repair.
- Metal base at one of the light poles has a large rust gap. Tim will talk with Herb Fick about replacement.
- Hardy Mechanical should be coming back to help solve the humidity moisture issue. Last year the air conditioning worked so fast that it caused condensation on the organ etc which could cause damage. Part of the suggested solution was to run the boilers to slow the pace of cooling which is a huge energy waste.

Worship and Arts Board

Minutes, April 9th 2019

Present: Jennifer, Nathan, Carolyn, Ruth, Scott, Nancy

Nancy passed out **Best Practices Document** and asked all board members to read at their leisure.

Running short on **Holden Booklets**: Nathan will order more copies.

Announcement for the summer edition of the Voice: Deadline: Friday May 22 for the June-August edition. Vintage Band Festival weekend - there will be a band at St John's – Flemish Belgian Band. Nathan will provide the info and Nancy will submit to the Voice – with photo if possible.

Request from St. John's member: Could St. John's Chorale sing at 2nd service occasionally or on a regular (monthly) basis. The chorale will sing at second service on Easter and in the Fall. Nathan will discuss possibilities with the Chorale.

Sanctuary painting has started in the balcony– “Navaho White.” Scott and Nathan will remove banners from back wall in balcony. Main space will be painted during the originally scheduled May dates .

Maakestad Sculpture is on its new base in the north entryway. The base was built by John Gorder. Joe Shaw and Leif Knecht are looking for a name for the sculpture and are asking for our opinion. Something with “spirit” or no name at all as fuel for imagination. It may need some bracing as it is a bit flexible.

Stained glass resurrection windows should be here by end of month. Where will they go – now and later? Nancy will take this issue to council- and ask for any ideas? -- We like natural light! The location in front of each of the 3 St. John's windows was discussed; the question of liability was brought up.

Hall Window Coverings discussion:

-Rolling Panels” in front of those St. John's Hall Windows apparently was part of the original design and wasn't done because of \$\$ issues.

-Original estimate was \$20-25,000, but it was suggested that it could be done much more reasonably

-Track for the wheels would be in the hundreds

-Frame (aluminum / custom built) with volunteers to help assemble them.

***Post-meeting conversations** with Pastors and Mark Gleason revealed the fact that the ECC board is exploring a tech solution (a mobile 96” TV screen) that would address the visibility issue without the need darken the room. This would be a more efficient and economical solution, with benefit to both the Hall and the Sanctuary.

Mark Gleason approached Nancy about the “**rosemaling**” (**gold leaf**) **on the beams in the sanctuary** – and the possibility of getting a grant from the MN historical society to do an experimental reveal on a beam in the balcony (perhaps by organ). Leif Knecht was named as a resource with firsthand information about the nature of the design. He is the one who painted over it. Brad Knoch was also part of this conversation and offered to have a chat with Leif about this in the near future. This project (Grant proposal) would be initiated by the Worship and Arts board, possibly in collaboration with Building and Grounds?

Submitted by,
Nancy Ordahl Knoch
April 9, 2019

Adult Ministry and Education Board

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

Members attending: Marilyn Calcutt, Anita Hellie, Andy Nelson and Rob Quanbeck

Library: With the aid of Thrivent monies Anita has purchased art railings for the Library. It is our hope to have these installed prior to April 28. Anita has consulted with Scott Swanson and Judy Swanson for help with this project. The plan will be to rotate art hanging in this area so that the members and guests of St. John's will have an opportunity to view these pieces.

Bus Trip: The next bus trip would focus on a day at the Minnesota Arboretum. It was decided that we would probably do this trip sometime in June as the timing is somewhat impractical at this point. Potential leaders are still being determined. Contacts are being made with Northfield Lines for bus transportation and with the Arboretum to determine logistics of the day.

Berne Wood-Fire Pizza and Concert Series: This family friendly outing will be Wednesday evening, June 19. Berne Wood Fire Pizza is located at Zwingli United Church of Christ in beautiful Berne, MN (near West Concord). The plan is for people to arrive early and get a gathering location for others as they arrive. More information will be in the June Voice and other social media platforms.

Cultural Cooking Class: This event will be held in the Fall. Contacts are being made with the Dao Helle and the Perez family as to their interest.

Men's Group: Work has been done to move this event forward. It has been decided to have a small group meeting with men who have indicated an interest in this type of group. Planning for a potential men's retreat hopefully can come from this small group meeting as well as other events that would be of interest.

Senior Ministry: Discussion was held on the possibility of getting printed copies of each Sunday's Bible texts. It is felt that many people would appreciate being able to follow along with the readings by having it printed in larger print than the pew Bibles.

Kitchen Electrical: Christy Hall-Holt met with the Board to discuss the question previously raised about the kitchen electrical. Christy will do some checking with others to see if this is a need for concern and report back to the Board. It is the Board's feeling that they would like to support the needs of the kitchen area as that is a big part of adult ministry and fellowship.

Rally Sunday: The Board was approached regarding Rally Sunday (in September) and how we could help with that event. It was decided that the Board's "homework assignment" for the month would be that each individual board members would give some thought to this day and how we can best support that day and the activities around it.

Calendar: The idea of a calendar was once again discussed. The need to have something that could be placed on one's refrigerator as a reminder seems to be of interest; especially for major events. Andy will look into the designs and costs of a refrigerator type magnet would be.

Honorariums: Lydia Circle has changed their Bible study programing and twice a year they hold multiple week Bible studies with special leaders. These Bible studies are three to four weeks in length and all members of the congregation (both men and women) are invited. It was asked if Adult Ministry would share in the payment of an honorarium for these study sessions and it was agreed that this was in line with Adult Ministry. A check will be requested for \$50 for the most recently Bible Study leader.

Voice: The Board was made aware that there will only be one issues of the Voice (June, July and August) with a May 22 deadline.

Evangelism and Communications Committee

Minutes, April 9, 2019

Present: Mark Gleason, Judy Karlsen, Leah Garlie, Eric Sponheim

1. ECC reviewed discussions and actions of the Council.
2. Banners: four new 150th Anniversary banners have been installed in outside locations. Daniel Edwins designed the banners and Leah Garlie facilitated ordering via Graphic Mailbox.
3. ECC members continued to collect oral histories for 150th anniversary, lining up April interviews. In addition, ECC continued planning related to interview metadata forms, backup, and posting on website.
4. ECC is planning for an initial CCB, with Stewardship (Kristy Harms) as a partner.

5. A-V recording equipment has arrived, under budget (\$2400). Paul Hager of NTV will provide volunteer help in setting up the equipment.
6. ECC continues to look at installation of software for closed captioning. Daniel Edwins is running trials. Mark G. will be meeting with two prospective donors for hearing loop technology early in May.
7. We continued to look at big screen tv options, and we determined that an 86" diagonal screen will fit into the church elevator, making it usable in multiple locations.
8. Following the meeting, Mark G. discussed with Worship and Arts members some oral history interviews that referenced the history of the rosemaling on the church rafters.

Youth Board
Minutes, April 9, 2019

Present: Jenny Nystrom, Barry Becker, Rob Nutt, Vassar Price, Emily Westerback; Absent: Dan Franklin, Sue Hagen Staff: Angie Gehring, Pastor Jonathan Davis

- Updates from Youth Transition Team
 - Second Round Interviews of 3 complete
 - Strongest candidate withdrew after learning of potential pay range
 - 3rd interview scheduled with a finalist - inviting finalist to meet with staff and a limited number of youth/adults prior to a final interview
- Council Update
- Thank you for volunteers
 - Volunteer Appreciation 5/12/19
 - Angie confirmed thank you gifts to volunteers
- Planning Retreats
 - Need blocks of time to work on scheduling 2019-2020 calendar events and to work on identifying volunteers for 2019-2020 calendar
 - Decided to do Volunteer retreat prior to calendar retreat as important to have new staff member involved in 2019-2020 calendaring if possible
 - Identifying/Planning for Volunteer Retreat – June 9, 2019 3-7p.m. (note: this is a change of date from our previous meeting)
 - Will NOT meet for regular Boards on 6/11/19 (retreat in lieu of board meeting)

- Plan to look to parents/adults who have shown interest/gifts working with youth, review new members list, talk to other congregates to identify potential volunteers
 - Can also identify ways to incorporate Best Practices for St. John's Person-Centered Service Program for Youth/Family volunteers (see hand-out)
- Recent Events:
 - 4/7/19 Trapped Puzzle Room/Nelson's Ice Cream– St Paul
 - HS and MS – well attended/enjoyed by par
- Upcoming Events Planning
 - Spring Care Package event to distribute to homebound members
 - Have list of 10 recipients identified by Melissa B.
 - 3 HS groups to deliver May 1st
 - Adults: Barry/Robb/Jenny
 - Deliver 6:30 – 7:30
 - Items: Prayer shawl, flower/plant; lip balm/hand lotion; notes form kids/members
 - Jenny will do table for congregates to add note at 4/28 celebration
 - 4/21/19 - Easter Breakfast Serving – Both MS & HS
 - Addressed volunteer needs for all shifts – additional needed for last shift – YB filled.
 - Good mix of youth/adult volunteers on each shift
- Upcoming Events on Schedule:
 - 4/14/19 High School Club – Peggy's
 - 4/28/19 – 150th Celebration – local composers & visual artists
 - YB Table for notes to homebound members for May Day baskets
 - 6/23/19 – 6/28/19 Camp Amnicon Flambeau River Ramble - MS Youth Trip
 - 7/14/19 – 150th Celebration – Outdoor Summer Event
 - 7/20/19 – 7/28/19 Camp Christikon - HS Youth Trip
 - 10/26 – 10/28/19 – 150th Celebration Capstone Event

Next Meeting: 5/14/19 at 7:00

Congregational Council Minutes
St. John's Lutheran Church, Northfield, MN
March 19, 2019

Present: Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Pr. Jonathan Davis, Kathy Shea, Nancy Ordahl Kmoch, Erik Holleque, David Nitz, Suzy Taggart, Martha Erickson, Mary Hoff, Bonnie Peterson, Terry Dell, Jenny Nystrom, Merilyn Calcutt, Allene Mosler

Guests: Bernie

Not Present: Ruthie Neuger, Mark Gleason

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by David Nitz

1. **Opening Prayer** – Offered by Nancy Ordahl Kmoch
2. **Financial Reports** – led by Martha Erickson. Motion made by Bonnie Peterson to release \$8,500 of Foundation funds approve; Jenny Nystrom seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **Bernie:** Went through the balance sheet and designated fund balances
 - a. Closed the ELCA Investment account due to lack of insurance on account
 - b. Need to build insurance reserve to 15,000

Mary Hoff made the motion to approve both treasures report; Terry Dell seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Andrea Hoff** – presented furnishing options for Commons
5. **Pastor's Report** –
 - a. Street project update: hope is to finish our portion of the street in July, with work beginning in late May/early June near St. John's.
 - b. Youth hiring process: started with 7 candidates and have now narrowed down to 3. Trying to narrow down from there.
 - c. Grace Overflowing updates: we have received \$585,000 toward \$810,000 pledged so far.
 - d. ASL Interpreter: we will be moving two offering ASL services two Sundays a month during the academic year, alternating Sundays with First UCC.
6. **Soup Suppers** – find the schedule under messages on CCB from Kristy.
7. **150th Events** – please try to minimize overlap of events with 150th celebration. Celebration dates: April 28, July 13, October 24-27.

8. **Charitable Giving Tax Law Forum/Chat** – an idea that is currently being tossed around.
9. **Hearing Loop Conversation** – People who it worked for were impressed, it did not work for others. Look into if Sertoma gives assistance with this type of thing.
10. **Summer Worship Schedule Proposal** – Nancy and the Worship and Arts Board
 - a. July – one service a month
 - b. One Sunday a month – Old Liturgy
 - c. The motion was made to go to one service at 9:30 a.m. for the Sundays in July for 2019. Allene Mosler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
11. **Youth Position Update** – the qualifications and educational experience of some of the candidates may require larger salaries than we are accustomed to providing. Terry Dell made the motion for the Personnel Committee to create a salary range that agrees with the potential budget supplied by Pam; motion was seconded by Nancy Ordahl Kmoch. The motion passed unanimously.
12. **Consent Agenda Items for Council** –
 - a. Jenny Nystrom motioned to approve minutes from February 2019; Bonnie Peterson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
13. **A closing prayer was offered by David Nitz**
14. Meeting concluded. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzy Taggart

