

**Congregational Council**  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
April 25, 2023 | 7:00 p.m.

**Members:** Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Pr. Jonathan Davis, Kathy Shea, Dave Neuger, Marilyn Calcutt, Eric Sponheim, Candace Godfrey, Trish Goodrich, Kristy Harms, Tamara Jackman, Dennis Rinehart, Jane Rizzo, Jerry Ugland, Steve Taggert, Dan Franklin

**Present:** Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Pr. Jonathan Davis, Kathy Shea, Dave Neuger, Marilyn Calcutt, Eric Sponheim, Candace Godfrey, Kristy Harms, Tamara Jackman, Dennis Rinehart, Jane Rizzo, Jerry Ugland, Steve Taggert, Dan Franklin

**Not Present:** Trish Goodrich

Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm

1. Opening devotion and prayer led by Jerry Ugland
2. Motion to approve the March 28, 2023 Minutes made by Jane Rizzo. Seconded by Kristy Harms. The motion passes unanimously.
3. Financial Report - Jane Rizzo
  - a. Water heater funding source
    - i. Jane Rizzo recommended taking \$3,766 from capital project current balance and the remainder from 2021 budget surplus, for a total of \$11,200. Jerry Ugland moved to accept this recommendation. Dennis Rinehart seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Dave Neuger moved to approve the March financial report. Tamara Jackman seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
5. Council Updates & Action Items
  - a. See section below on board chair reports and new business.
6. Pastor's Report (included in the materials for the meeting)
  - a. Three funerals within ten days in April
  - b. Lent and Easter attendance trends
  - c. PEEL – five sessions held
  - d. Synagogue visit planned
7. Board Reports - Board Chairs (included in the materials for this meeting)

- a. Worship & Arts – Continues to discuss what is the right balance between in-person and virtual worship
  - b. Benevolence & Social Concerns
    - i. Requests \$1,000 for earthquake relief in Turkey, to be given to Lutheran Mideast Development. Also requests a contribution of \$1,000 to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service to mitigate the effects of Ukrainian dislocation to the United States. Motion made by Jerry Ugland to request these funds from the Grace Overflowing funds. The motion was seconded by Dan Franklin. The motion passed unanimously.
    - ii. Benevolence and Social Concerns will also be using \$1,000 of a designated fund for general benevolence to give to Lutheran Disaster Response for responding to humanitarian crisis caused by the war in Ukraine.
  - c. Property and Grounds – insurance adjuster has not yet come to assess claim for roof damage. See below for solar panels issue.
8. New Business
- a. Foundation update re: solar panels
    - i. Dave Neuger moved that we agree in principle to move forward with All Energy Solar as the provider to put in solar panels for the church, to the extent that federal funding is available with no financial commitment yet by the congregation just to be on the list. Steve Taggart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  - b. Future of Peace & Justice
    - i. Do we still need an umbrella group to oversee items like working on a land acknowledgement statement, or should we disperse these duties across the boards? (Faith & Health is working on a land acknowledgement statement). The consensus was that allowing the energy to percolate up on particular projects makes sense at this time, rather than trying to continue the Peace & Justice group as a coordinating entity.
  - c. Move of board member to a different board
    - i. Jane Rizzo moved that Patrice Nordstand move from the Youth Board to the Benevolence Board. Kathy Harms seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Future Dates:

- a. Boards: **Tuesday, May 9, 2023**  
Please send notes of your Board meetings to Trish Goodrich within a week so she can have them prepared for Council meetings
- b. Council: **Tuesday, May 23, 2023 | 7:00 p.m.** Prayer led by Kristy Harms.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm

Other Notes: none.

Respectfully submitted by Eric Sponheim