

Congregational Council
St. John's Lutheran Church, Northfield, MN
May 28, 2019

Present: Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Pr. Jonathan Davis, Ruthie Neuger, David Nitz, Martha Erickson, Suzy Taggart, Terry Dell, Mary Hoff, Bonnie Peterson, Mark Gleason, Erik Holleque, Marilyn Calcutt, Jenny Nystrom, Kathy Shea, Nancy Ordahl Kmoch

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ruthie Neuger

1. **Opening Prayer** – Offered by Terry Dell
2. **Pastor's Report**
 - a. Emmanuel Khagondi has accepted our Director of Ministry with Youth and Families position. He will begin July 1, pending work authorization through the visa extension process.
 - b. Grace Overflowing
 - i. A blood drive was held on May 16 and two more are schedule as part of our drive for “150 pints for 150 years.”
 - ii. Furnishing for the Commons have been ordered and will arrive in July.
 - iii. The painting of the sanctuary has begun and is due to be finished by June 2.
 - iv. Demolition of Fellowship Hall will begin around June 17. One final coffee hour on the original floor of Fellowship Hall will be held on June 16.
 - c. New Members
 - d. Program year wrap-up
3. **April Financial Report** – Martha Erickson
4. **Council Action Items and Updates:**
 - a. Mary Hoff – nominating committee and time and talents
 - i. Looking for ways to recruit volunteers to use their time and talents in a meaningful way – serving on committees, helping around the property, etc.
 - ii. Would like to hear from the boards about what they're looking for – the bullet points they would like to include for their committee.
 - iii. Email Mary with your ideas and needs.
 - iv. Remember to use those thank you notes!
 - b. Stewardship – goals, priorities, ideas
 - i. Spend some time thinking about what would encourage people to pledge and continue to pledge.

- c. Pr. Pam's sabbatical –
 - i. As a common practice, Pr. Pam will be taking her 12-week sabbatical beginning in summer '20.
 - ii. The council will vote on the sabbatical plan this June.

- d. EEC Hearing Loop Update – Mark Gleason
 - i. Mark met with the lead donors – their pledges were confirmed (at \$2,500 and \$2,000).
 - ii. Timeline – End of July.
 - iii. \$8,000 is still needed in donations or pledges by the end of July.

- e. Red Barn Pizza Night – June 19. Entire congregation and family night.
 - i. Keep in mind reaching out to others who may need transportation.

5. Consent Agenda Items for Council –

- a. Jenny moved to approve the minutes. Mark seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. A closing prayer was offered by Ruthie Neuger

7. Meeting concluded. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzy Taggart