

**Congregational Council**  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
June 28, 2022 | 7:00 p.m.

Members: Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Pr. Jonathan Davis, Paul Beck, Marilyn Calcutt, Rod Christensen, Dale Gehring, Mark Gleason, Candace Godfrey, Trish Goodrich, Kristy Harms, Tamara Jackman, Dennis Rinehart, Jane Rizzo, Kathleen Shea, Jerry Ugland

**Present: Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Pr. Jonathan Davis, Rod Christensen, Dale Gehring, Mark Gleason, Jane Rizzo, Candace Godfrey, Kristy Harms, Jerry Ugland, Kathleen Shea, Trish Goodrich, Dennis Rinehart, Tamara Jackman, Paul Beck, Carrie Dauner (representing Adult Ministry)**

**Not Present: Marilyn Calcutt**

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm

1. Opening devotion and prayer led by Jerry Ugland.
2. Motion to approve the May 24, 2022 Minutes made by Jane Rizzo. Seconded by Mark Gleason. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Financial Report – Jane Rizzo
4. Jerry moved to approve the May financial report. Kathy seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Council Updates & Action Items
  - a. Ministry Fair
    - i. Kristy has reached out to various groups to make initial contact. Will reach out again to see what each group might need for resources and supplies, and talk to staff to see what might be available for use.
    - ii. Dates have been set: August 28 & September 18
    - iii. Communication coming out shortly in E-Voice and Bulletins
    - iv. Consider capturing fair by photo or video
6. Pastor's Report – Pr. Pam & Pr. Jonathan
  - a. Included in the materials for this meeting
  - b. Meal Ministry team - met recently and strongly recommends that St. John's consider providing a stipend to a lead cook who would plan menus and shopping and manage the budget of the meals.
    - i. Council in agreement that we would support the development of this position, and do the research necessary to figure out costs associated with it
    - ii. Makes sense that this would be an ongoing commitment starting with 2023 budget - but what about this Fall? Can meal ministry team cover the first several months of the fall? What about asking for funds from the Foundation? And what about offering the option of Venmo for collection of donations?
    - iii. Kristy makes a motion that the Council authorize the research into the amount necessary to hire someone for approximately 6-7 hours a week to

handle the planning, shopping, and coordinating of the volunteers, with the understanding that it will be less than a \$20,000 investment, and that it supports not just St. John's but the rest of the community. Mark seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

7. Board Reports: included in the materials for the Council meeting. Additional notes:
  - a. **Evangelism & Communication**
    - i. Engineer from ESI was here to do measurements - doing further analysis which will be presented in the next few weeks.
  - b. **Faith & Health**
    - i. Life in the time of COVID - continuing into summer
  - c. **Stewardship**
    - i. Board is considering holding an Art Fair in October to display the work of St. John's Artists
  - d. **Adult Ministry & Education**
    - i. Valley Grove event was a great success
    - ii. Possible jigsaw puzzle image - consider Good Shepherd stained glass window
  - e. **Youth Ministry**
    - i. Looking into holding pancake breakfasts once the school year begins
8. New Business
  - a. Comprehensive programming & facilities planning process
    - i. Jane pointed out the prompts shared with the BMB to spark conversation
    - ii. Inventory of the space seems like an important first step - what does that look like? Open and inviting to all members of congregation?
    - iii. Not necessarily talking about a capital campaign; a slower approach to talk about strategic decisions
    - iv. Current plan is to be clear and inviting in the communication. Rod and Pam to draft communication to have ready for Exec Com and Council next month
  - b. Social Issues & Concerns dialogue
    - i. How should St. John's continue to respond to social challenges such as racial equity and climate change?
    - ii. Pam gave a history of how St. John's has handled conversations around racial equity and dialogue over the past two years. One ongoing question: do we make social statements as issues arise? At the congregational level - what is the right approach? Pros and Cons of making social statements discussed. Small groups have been formed around certain issues, which gives members choices to engage. Jonathan: how do we have a faithful approach to talking about issues from the pulpit or from a leadership perspective?
    - iii. What is our goal or purpose? What are we trying to accomplish?
    - iv. It is Council's consensus that our current approach to addressing societal issues in worship and through small group activities is appropriate.

#### **Future dates**

1. Boards will not have organized Board Nights in July and August - Boards can meet on their own when convenient to them. Please send notes of your Board meetings to Trish Goodrich within a week so she can have them prepared for Council meetings

2. Council: **Tuesday, July 26, 2022/7:00 p.m.** Prayer led by Candace Godfrey.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm

Other Notes: none.

Respectfully submitted by Trish Goodrich