

**Congregational Council**  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
June 27, 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, Kathy Shea, Eric Sponheim, Candace Godfrey, Tamara Jackman, Jane Rizzo, Dan Franklin, Tamara Jackman, Dave Neuger, Jerry Ugland, Dennis Rinehart

**Not Present:** Pr. Jonathan Davis, Steve Taggert, Trish Goodrich, Kristy Harms, Marilyn Calcutt

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. Opening devotion and prayer led by Eric Sponheim
2. Motion to approve the May 23, 2023 Minutes made by Jane Rizzo. Seconded by Tamara Jackman. The motion passes unanimously.
3. Financial Report - Jane Rizzo
  - a. 35% of budget, would like to see it at 38% at this point. (short \$30,000)
  - b. Another update will be sent to the congregation after the June numbers.
  - c. Expenses are doing well for this point in the year, no surprises.
  - d. Two new sections under the Church Council.
    - i. 2022 Hail Claim: We have received our funds for the hail claim, but they are set aside for roof repairs (\$22,487). Steve Harner is working with insurance about the roof claim. We can replace the roof without a decision on solar panels.
    - ii. Memorial: We continue to receive funds for Memorials which gives us additional funds when needed, currently (\$10,066)
4. Dan Franklin moved to approve the May financial report. Dave Neuger seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
5. Council Updates & Action Items
  - a. Youth Board - ELCA Scholarships
    - i. The Youth Board requests a release from the Foundation all of the ELCA scholarship dollars
      1. Motion made by Dennis Rinehart to release Foundation funds of \$2,950 for the ELCA scholarships, each scholarship will be \$500, and

any remaining funds will be set aside for future years in a designated fund. Seconded by Dave Neuger. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Pastor's Report (included in the materials for the meeting)
  - a. Pr. Jonathan Davis is on a mission trip to Nashville this week.
  - b. Sustainability Leadership team will be meeting for the first time tomorrow (June 28, 2023).
  - c. Pr. Pam Fickenscher attended the Ribbon cutting of Hillcrest Village today. St. John's has been a supporter of Hillcrest since it was a vague idea.
  
7. Board Reports - (included in the materials for this meeting)
  - a. Business and Management - section 1A of their meeting minutes. Met with Adult Ministry Board about "Receptions" dollars in the budget, currently under the Adult Ministry Board. Currently, other funds have board oversight. "Receptions" includes coffee, funerals, anything that happens with the kitchen. The Business Management board offered to take over management, including adding more information to expand it from receptions. Leah has a detailed list of all expenses.
  - b. Worship & Arts - approved by email to move a mid-size Yamaha to St. John's, was donated by John Ferguson. The cost of \$400 will come out of a designated fund (John did donate part of the moving cost as well).
  - c. Faith and Health – discussion about Land Acknowledgement and interacting more with the Northfield Hispanic Community.
  - d. Benevolence & Social Concerns – approved several donations this month. Will not meet in July or August.
  - e. Adult Ministry – not in attendance - Dennis Rinehart attended Vang's Church event in June, was a really nice evening.
  - f. Stewardship – not in attendance
  - g. Evangelism & Communications – Stephanie Bennett will donate her time in September to take photos
  - h. Youth – Mission trip happening now. Will host Welcome Fest on September 17<sup>th</sup> with Children's:
  - i. Children's – Met with Youth Board about Welcome Fest, will meet in August.
  
8. New Business
  - a. Resignation of Emmanuel Kaghondi
    - i. Last day will be August 13, 2023
    - ii. Working towards the future and finding Emmanuel's replacement: Not an ordained position, staff and personnel committee are working to discuss needs and wants for future role. Personnel Committee has put out an email to

gather soon to start the process of what needs to be done. Plan to have an interim while preparing to search for a replacement.

- b. Facilities Sustainability Group update
  - i. Group meeting tomorrow, June 28, 2023.
  - ii. Potential Congregational Meeting on Sunday, August 13, 2023 to discuss solar panels.

Future Dates:

- a. Boards: **No official Board Night for July and August - meet as needed**  
Please send notes of your Board meetings to Trish Goodrich so she can have them prepared for Council meetings
- b. Council: **Tuesday, July 25, 2023 | 7:00 p.m.** Prayer led by Candace Godfrey.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Other Notes: none.

Respectfully submitted by Candace Godfrey