

**Congregational Council**  
**St. John's Lutheran Church | Northfield, MN**  
**May 26, 2020**  
**Meeting via Zoom due to COVID-19**

Present: Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Pr. Jonathan Davis, David Nitz, Ruth Dahl, Martha Erickson, Suzy Taggart, Mark Gleason, Mary Hoff, Marilyn Calcutt, Craig Schultz, Allene Mosler, Suzanne Pfau, Kathy Shea, Scott Swanson, Jenny Nystrom, Kris Vatter

Not Present: N/A

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. by David Nitz.

1. Opening Prayer - offered by Scott Swanson.
2. Pastor's Report
3. Financial Report
  - a. We are where is expected for this time of the year - spending is slightly higher than incoming funds.
4. Council Action Items & Updates
  - a. News from Boards
    - i. Stewardship Board - would like help developing themes for fall giving campaign.
    - ii. Property & Grounds - have been making lists of things that need updating and/or repairs. We will check the grounds for various foundations to give to these repairs.
    - iii. Benevolence - wondering how long spending will be halted.
    - iv. Suzanne Pfau reported that the Blood Drive in May was successful. They are hoping to put another one on the calendar.
    - v. Children's Board - Trying to think of ways to keep the kids connected as VBS and other camps have been cancelled for the summer.
    - vi. Youth & Families - Looking at the summer and how to keep kids connected, while recognizing that families feel differently about how much contact they are comfortable with. Looking at how to celebrate this year's seniors as the senior breakfast has been cancelled.
    - vii. Adult Ministry - Trying to think about how to get people "together" - possibly small coffee groups with 4-6 people.
  - b. May Newsletter preview
  - c. Safe Operating Task Force update

- i. Have met and developed an overall plan of the things that need to be discussed, including building use and staff. They will meet again tomorrow. A united front once the procedures are put into place will be imperative.
    - ii. The Council supports the staff's suggestion that St. John's plan no in-person events in the building sooner than the end of July and instructs the Safe Operating Task Force to craft a recommendation to that effect. Kathy made the motion. Allene seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
    - iii. The task force will craft a statement at their meeting tomorrow.
  - d. Pastors' sabbatical plan revisions. The cancellation of the sabbatical plan has opened an opportunity to apply for funds that were not previously applied for.
- 5. Consent Agenda Items
  - a. Ruth Dahl moved to approve the April Council Meeting minutes minutes. Mary Hoff seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
  - b. The April financial report was approved by Jenny Nystrom. Ruth Dahl seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- 6. A closing prayer was offered by David Nitz.
- 7. Meeting was concluded. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.