

Congregational Council Minutes
St. John's Lutheran Church, Northfield, MN
March 19, 2019

Present: Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Pr. Jonathan Davis, Kathy Shea, Nancy Ordahl Kmoch, Erik Holleque, David Nitz, Suzy Taggart, Martha Erickson, Mary Hoff, Bonnie Peterson, Terry Dell, Jenny Nystrom, Merilyn Calcutt, Allene Mosler

Guests: Bernie

Not Present: Ruthie Neuger, Mark Gleason

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by David Nitz

1. **Opening Prayer** – Offered by Nancy Ordahl Kmoch
2. **Financial Reports** – led by Martha Erickson. Motion made by Bonnie Peterson to release \$8,500 of Foundation funds approve; Jenny Nystrom seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **Bernie:** Went through the balance sheet and designated fund balances
 - a. Closed the ELCA Investment account due to lack of insurance on account
 - b. Need to build insurance reserve to 15,000

Mary Hoff made the motion to approve both treasures report; Terry Dell seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Andrea Hoff** – presented furnishing options for Commons
5. **Pastor's Report** –
 - a. Street project update: hope is to finish our portion of the street in July, with work beginning in late May/early June near St. John's.
 - b. Youth hiring process: started with 7 candidates and have now narrowed down to 3. Trying to narrow down from there.
 - c. Grace Overflowing updates: we have received \$585,000 toward \$810,000 pledged so far.
 - d. ASL Interpreter: we will be moving two offering ASL services two Sundays a month during the academic year, alternating Sundays with First UCC.
6. **Soup Suppers** – find the schedule under messages on CCB from Kristy.
7. **150th Events** – please try to minimize overlap of events with 150th celebration. Celebration dates: April 28, July 13, October 24-27.

8. **Charitable Giving Tax Law Forum/Chat** – an idea that is currently being tossed around.
9. **Hearing Loop Conversation** – People who it worked for were impressed, it did not work for others. Look into if Sertoma gives assistance with this type of thing.
10. **Summer Worship Schedule Proposal** – Nancy and the Worship and Arts Board
 - a. July – one service a month
 - b. One Sunday a month – Old Liturgy
 - c. The motion was made to go to one service at 9:30 a.m. for the Sundays in July for 2019. Allene Mosler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
11. **Youth Position Update** – the qualifications and educational experience of some of the candidates may require larger salaries than we are accustomed to providing. Terry Dell made the motion for the Personnel Committee to create a salary range that agrees with the potential budget supplied by Pam; motion was seconded by Nancy Ordahl Kmoch. The motion passed unanimously.
12. **Consent Agenda Items for Council** –
 - a. Jenny Nystrom motioned to approve minutes from February 2019; Bonnie Peterson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
13. **A closing prayer was offered by David Nitz**
14. Meeting concluded. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzy Taggart