

Congregational Council

St. John's Lutheran Church | Northfield, MN

September 22, 2020 | 7:00 p.m.

Meeting via Zoom due to COVID-19

Present: Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Pr. Jonathan Davis, David Nitz, Suzy Taggart, Jenny Nystrom, Mary Hoff, Allene Moesler, Suzanne Pfau, Mark Gleason, Craig Schultz, Kathy Shea, Kris Vatter, Merilyn Calcutt

Not Present: Martha Erickson, Ruth Dahl

Meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by David Nitz.

1. Opening prayer - offered by Mary Hoff
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Pastor's Report
 - a. Youth had their first gathering last week. Great turnout.
 - b. Julie held her first online Sunday School last week - good turnout and went well.
 - c. Looking to winter - we are not at any less risk than we have been earlier this year. We will most likely be staying the course and continue on as we have - with small group gatherings, outdoors when possible. Any services we could hold would need to be limited in number, with safety and social distancing measures in place.

In put from Council members:

 - Looking for older, more familiar hymns.
 - There are young families that don't feel like they'd be able to corral their little people.
 - In the end, there are many many factors that go into this decision.
 - d. We have been accepted into the Luther Seminary's Congregations in a Secular Age.
 - e. The racial equality group had their first meeting.
4. Review of board rosters and terms
5. Council Action Items & Updates
 - a. Building and Grounds - Fall cleanup will be held on Saturday, October 24.
 - b. Stewardship - Fall drive letters will be going out in the middle of October.
 - c. Benevolence and Social Concerns - All 112 slots for delivering Meals and Wheels are filled!
 - d. Children's Ministry - possibly sending home kits for Advent activities. Bibles and Catechisms have been ordered.

6. Consent Agenda Items

- a. Craig Schultz moved to approve the August council minutes, Allene Moesler seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- b. Jenny Nystrom moved to approve the August Treasurer's Report. Kathy Shea seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- c. Mark Gleason moved to use \$500 from the St. John's Fund for St. John's participation in Luther Seminary project "Congregations in a Secular Age." Kris Vatter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- d. Mark Gleason moved to use Foundation Funds to subscribe to Vimeo services for \$75 per month, through the end of the year, at which time we will revisit the subscription. Craig Schultz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. A closing prayer was offered by David Nitz.

8. Meeting was concluded. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.