

# Agenda

## *Congregation Council*

St. John's Lutheran Church  
August 23, 2016 + 7:00 p.m.

### **1. Prayer** – *We begin our meeting centered in the presence of God.*

*Silence*, then opening prayer led by Dan Van Tassel. *A time of silence for prayer and for gathering our hearts and minds together will precede the prayer.*

### **2. Future dates**

- a. Boards – Tuesday, September 13, 2016. Fellowship and treats at 6:45 pm, Faith and Health Board to provide treats and Devotion. Meeting at 7:00 pm

*Reminder: Please call or e-mail your board members prior to the meeting and remind them.*

- b. Council Meeting – Tuesday September 27, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

### **3. Consent Agenda Items for Council**

- a. Treasurer's Report, July 2016
- b. Minutes from the July 26, 2016 meeting

### **4. Pastor's Report**

### **5. Council Action Items and Updates**

- a. Property and Grounds - Maintenance Update
  - i. Leaking Roof repair
  - ii. Window repair
  - iii. Sidewalk repair
  - iv. A/C for Music Director's office and adjacent room
- b. Communication Board update on Visual Identity project
- c. Update on the upcoming Stewardship for All Seasons meeting
- d. Ministry Fair Planning
- e. Benevolence Board decisions regarding dispersing the remaining \$2500 in the discretionary fund:
  - i. \$1000 to the SE MN Synod Leading Together fund
  - ii. \$500 to the ALC, Northfield Public Schools for the weekend food backpacks.
  - iii. \$200 to the Center for Victims of Torture
  - iv. \$200 to Cannon River Watershed Project
  - v. \$200 to Health Finders
  - vi. \$200 Ruth's House in Faribault
  - vii. \$200 to the ELCA Malaria Campaign

### **6. Congregational Mission Visioning Discussion**

150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning

- Committee Building Status
  - Council framing of plans and priorities for Fund Drive
    - Division of funds to capital projects, benevolence, foundation?
    - Benevolence ideas
- \* Outside Borrowing must be approved by Congregation

### **7. Other business**

- a. Foundation Update
- b. Worship and Arts Council Slot

**8. Prayer** – The president leads a prayer asking God’s grace and help on our ministry. Items could include specific congregation needs / issues / items for thanksgiving; specific ministry areas of the congregation needing to be lifted to God; and/or any individual needs or requests council members would like to share in prayer.

**Lord’s Prayer:** After the president’s prayer is concluded, we finish the meeting praying the prayer Jesus taught us.

**9. Adjournment follows.**

## Appendix:

### 1. St. John's Foundation Update

<b>Budgeted Dispersals</b>			
St. John's Fund	16,812.52		
World Mission Fund	172.32		
Youth Fund	1,041.19		
Music Fund	760.51		
Building and Property Fund	1,547.31		
Media Fund	939.31		
Community / Social Fund	392.26		
Soli Seminary Fund	1,019.38		
ELCA Scholarship Fund	2,315.20		
Total	25,000.00		
<b>Approved Expenditures</b>		<b>Council Approval</b>	<b>note</b>
refugee funds	4,000.00	06/07/2016	SJF
Pajama project	5,000.00	12/2015	SJF
pastoral leadership program	1,400.00	5/24/2016	SJF
Gift to the Klines	500.00	06/07/2016	172.32 world mission fund; 327.68 from SJF
Stewardship for All Seasons	1,000.00	6/28/16	SJF
Stewardship for All Seasons - Materials	600.00	6/28/16	SJF
Logo design for the Voice & Outdoor signage	500.00	6/28/16	Media Fund
Seminary Scholarships Fall 2016	1,000.00	7/26/2016	Soli Seminary Fund
<b>Remaining Balances</b>			
St. John's Fund	4,812.52		
World Mission Fund	0.00		
Youth Fund	1,041.19		
Music Fund	760.51		
Building and Property Fund	1,547.31		
Media Fund	439.31		
Community / Social Fund	392.26		
Soli Seminary Fund	19.38		
ELCA Scholarship Fund	2,315.20		
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,327.68</b>		

## 2. Board Minutes/Notes from August, 2016

### **Adult Ministry and Education**

No notes received for August

### **Benevolence and Social Concerns**

Benevolence and Social Concerns Board Notes, August 9, 2016

Present: Dave Neuger, John Gorder, Jo Franklin, Chuck Jacobson, Jane Rinehart, chairperson.

Visitors: Brent Nystom, Christy Hall Holt and Mary, Nancy Kluver

1. We picked two phrases for the Ministry Fair bingo game: anti-Scrooge, and For the Good of the World. Jane will be at the B&SC Ministry Fair table on Sunday 9/18, and others will assist. I'll ask the Peace and Justice group to also be at the table. Did someone agree to be at the table on Wed. night during the supper hour?
2. Our boards were asked to discuss what ministry are we called to do. This is for Pr Pam and Dan to have for a Stewardship for All Seasons meeting on 8/25. B&SC board said: grounded in grace through Word and sacrament, our heart is in our worship. Called to minister to our community through service, benevolence, advocacy. We did not pick a specific project. We talked of how there may be some special fund raising for refugee resettlement, if needed, in December.
3. Dave Neuger agreed to represent the B&SC board on the 150th Anniversary Committee.
4. Nancy Kluver met with us to plan for this year's Meals on Wheels. St. J's delivers meals from 9/18-10/15. Nancy will set up on-line sign-up on the St. John's web page. She will also have a table in the Commons each Sunday, starting August 21. Rusty will help her on Sundays until he gets too busy with harvest. Chuck Jacobson will also assist when he is here. Each of us on the board will encourage people to sign up, until we meet the quota. Nancy has articles ready to go to the Voice and news blasts.
5. Chuck will write an article on seminarians for the Mission Interpreter article for the Sept Voice.
6. We made decisions on dispersing the remaining \$2500 in the discretionary fund:
  - \$1000 to the SE MN Synod Leading Together fund
  - \$500 to the ALC, Northfield Public Schools for the weekend food backpacks.
  - \$200 to the Center for Victims of Torture
  - \$200 to Cannon River Watershed Project
  - \$200 to Health Finders
  - \$200 Ruth's House in Faribault
  - \$200 to the ELCA Malaria Campaign

## **Business Management**

### **Children's Ministry and Education**

No notes received for August

### **Evangelism & Communications:**

Minutes August 2016

Members present: Andrea Hoff, Daniel Edwins, Dave Zdenek, Kristin Partlo. Absent: Alan Marks, Erik Lindell

We primarily discussed where we are at with the rollout of the graphic identity. This included reviewing headers/templates for the digital Voice newsletter and providing feedback to Don Bratland. We also discussed outdoor signage and updating the outside banners. The E & C Board recommends to the Council the approval of moving forward with updating the outdoor signage with a preference for the wooden sign vs vinyl lettering. The consensus is that the wooden sign would be classier, higher quality and more durable.

Daniel Edwins provided an estimate/proposal for two monitors (one in the Commons and one at the southwest entrance) as well as a box to update the monitor in the Youth/Children's area on the lower level.

Action items:

Andrea to provide update on rollout of the graphic identity

Financial request for outdoor signage and indoor monitors

Estimates hopefully provided for indoor signage and Commons area furnishings

### **Faith and Health**

Faith and Health Minutes

August 9, 2016

Present: Howard Thorsheim, Melissa Berthelson, Jennifer Edwins, Lareyna Shafqat, Lynette Marks

Excused: Naomi Bartley

Our board continued our discussion on St. John's Emergency Policies. Rough drafts on Health Emergencies, Severe Weather, and Run/Hide/Take Cover were critiqued. Proposed policies were completed and are ready for sharing with the pastors for their continued critiquing and follow through for St. John's.

We plan to have a display for the Ministry Fair in September. Paperwork turned into Christy Hall-Holt.

Responsibilities for devotion and treats were discussed for September Boards.

### **Properties and Grounds**

No notes received for August

**Stewardship  
Minutes of Stewardship Board  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
August 9, 2016**

Members Present: Sandra Gerdes, David Kelvie, Patty Lindell, Mark Rydberg, Dan Van Tassel, Ralph Yernberg.

The minutes from July 12 were presented and approved. Dan shared background information from his meeting on July 6 with Pastor Pam and the Stewardship for All Seasons Cohort group. Members had some questions regarding the setting of a 2017 budget goal and how this is coordinated with other ministry boards. Members requested a listing of future cohort group meeting dates. They are as follows: **August 25, September 15, October 4, November 29, February 7, and April 6.**

- Members agreed that as we enter into the Stewardship for All Seasons program, we need to continue to work on 2016 stewardship efforts for a strong completion.

The first agenda item was a discussion of the September 18 ministry fair featuring the various boards of St. John's. Thus far, Dan, Patty and Ralph are committed to be present at the stewardship table on Sunday, 9-18, and Dan and Patty will work the table on the following Wednesday, 9-21. The theme will be "Live Generously – Give Joyfully." Features of the table include the following:

- 200 apples (1 ½ bushels) to give away – giving joyfully (Sandra responsible).
- A lantern hidden under a basket – sharing your talent (Ralph responsible).
- Poster of 2016 Budget using ministry terminology (Ralph to check into where to get this done).
- Poster on "How have you shared your gifts at St. John's?" with pins to place on volunteer activities - TBD
- Poster encouraging people to take on a St. John's activity in the coming year – TBD
- Deadline – end of month (Ralph put this in) with dress rehearsal on next board meeting night

Second agenda item was to discuss how we view the budget and determine a "stretch goal" as we move forward with the Stewardship for All Seasons. We also addressed whether there is some type of extra focus we would like to add to the budget that will generate enthusiasm for stewardship (as requested in the synod stewardship project).

Following considerable discussion, the following decisions were made:

- We feel the budget and financial statements are excellent and very carefully done. We would like to talk about the various categories using ministry terms. Suggestions included:
  - Our Ministry through People
  - Our Ministry through Sharing
  - Our Service through our Facility
  - Our Outreach to our Members and Beyond
- We will make a determination as to language at the next meeting.
- We struggle with how to describe or consider the various amounts in the restricted funds category as they are important projects that go beyond the budget. Current thinking is to not emphasize this form of giving but this will be revisited.

- Our first suggestion as to a budget goal is to move from \$920,000 to \$1 Million in 2016.

Our third agenda item was a discussion regarding overall stewardship planning as it appears there is a need for a three or four year plan. If there is a capital campaign, we need to understand the implications of its impact on our general giving. The Church Council will need to provide some guidance as to what is anticipated in the build up to the celebration of our legacy in 2019. Brent Nystrom explained that there have been several ideas proposed but nothing has been decided other than the establishment of planning group which will determine some general ideas. There are clearly some specific facility needs and there has been mention of refinishing pews or beautifying various areas of the church.

Coordination of general stewardship and any special drives will be important.

Ralph agreed to contact Mike Ward (or a representative of GBS) to see if the Stewardship for All Seasons project has had experience with congregations also doing capital campaigns. This is just for background information.

The meeting was adjourned sometime after half of us went home.

Ralph Yernberg, acting secretary

### **Worship and Arts**

No notes received for August

### **Youth Ministry and Education**

No notes received for August