

Agenda

Congregation Council

St. John's Lutheran Church
February 21, 2017 + 7:00 p.m.

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

Silence, then devotion and opening prayer led by *Board Chair*. *A time of silence for prayer and for gathering our hearts and minds together will precede the prayer.*

2. Future dates

Boards – **Tuesday March 11, 2017** 7:00pm (at chairs' discretion) Fellowship and treats at 6:45 pm, Children's Ministry & Education 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.

Council – **Tuesday March 28, 2017** 7:00pm; Todd Mennsen, Board Chair, devotion

3. Pastor's Report

4. Consent Agenda Items for Council

- a. Candidate for Stewardship Board
- b. Refugee sponsorship – need for additional financial support for family
- c. Pastoral Housing Budget
- d. Minutes from the January 28, 2017 meeting

6. Council Action Items and Updates

- a. Thrivent dollar dispersal for 2017
Historically, Thrivent funds have been dispersed in the following manner:
 - Children & Youth – 40%
 - WELCA – 40%
 - Capital fund – 20%
- b. 2017 and 2018 discussion – funding and budgets. (Pr. Pam)
- c. Evangelism & Communication Board item – Funding to update St. John's website to apply new graphic identity
- d. Preliminary Youth Fundraiser update

7. Mission and Visioning

- a. Discussion – plans for implementing the identified 3 stewardship/ministry goals from the stewardship drive for 2017.
- b. Laura Baker Respite Program.

8. Other Business

- a. Lenten Soup Supper Board service
- b. 150th Anniversary Planning

9. 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:

a. St. John’s Foundation

	%	Allocation	2017	BALANCE
St Johns Fund	67.18%	\$16,795	\$ -	\$16,795.00
World Mission Fund	0.69%	\$173	\$ -	\$172.50
Youth Fund	4.15%	\$1,038	\$ -	\$1,037.50
Music Fund	3.22%	\$805	\$ -	\$805.00
Bldg & Property Fund	6.17%	\$1,543	\$ -	\$1,542.50
Media Fund	3.74%	\$935	\$ -	\$935.00
Com/Social Fund	1.56%	\$390	\$ -	\$390.00
Soli Sem Fund	4.06%	\$1,015	\$ -	\$0.00
ELCA Scholarship Fund	9.23%	\$2,308	\$ -	\$2,307.50
TOTAL	100.00%	\$25,000	\$ -	\$25,000.00

St. John’s Council Allocation Tracking - 2017

2017 Budgeted Allocations				
St. John's Fund	16,795.00			
World Mission Fund	172.50			
Youth Fund	1,037.50			
Music Fund	805.00			
Building and Property Fund	1,542.50			
Media Fund	935.00			
Community / Social Fund	390.00			
Soli Seminary Fund	1,015.00			
ELCA Scholarship Fund	2,307.50			
Total	25,000.00			
Authorized 2017 Dispersals				
2017 Approved Expenditure	Authorized \$ Amount	Council Approval Date	Designated Fund	Fund Balance

b. Board Minutes/Notes from 02/07/2017

Adult Ministry and Education

Board will be meeting later in February. No Minutes for this Agenda.

Benevolence and Social Concerns Notes

February 7, 2017

Present: Jo Franklin, Dave Neuger, Jane Rinehart (chair)

Guest: Pastor Pam

We reviewed the list of non-profits that we will send the Request for Proposal for the benevolence portion of the 150th anniversary celebration. The form will be mailed to 29 nonprofits in Northfield and the surrounding area. These are posted on the St. John's web site, and congregational members are invited to suggest other organization. An article was written for the Feb. news blasts, and for the March Voice. The nonprofits are asked to return the forms by the end of March.

March is Food Share month, and an article will also be in the Voice requesting donations.

Our board signed up to clean up Lenten soup suppers on March 1 and April 12.

Board members have signed up to donate items to the Youth Fundraiser on 2/12.

Addendum: board member Chuck Jacobson died on 2/9 following a heart attach and bypass surgery. We are grateful for his kind and dedicated service on our board. We mourn his passing.

Business Management

Children's Ministry and Education Committee

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Present: Sue Brockman, Erik Holleque, Julie Brehmer (staff)

After introducing ourselves to each other, Childrens met with Youth to discuss the upcoming Fundraiser. We all signed up for a shift to help with the fundraiser.

Childrens and Youth also signed up to do one of the Soup Suppers together, March 15, 2017.

Children's Ministry and Education Committee

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Present: Sue Brockman, Erik Holleque, Keri Peterson, Katherine Norrie, Julie Brehmer (staff)

We introduced ourselves to each other.

We discussed the Teacher Appreciation Brunch this past Sunday, February 5, 2017. It was a nice time, but attendance was low .

We discussed the plans for the upcoming fundraiser.

We discussed Prayer Buddies.

We reminded people of the Soup Supper, March 15, 2017.

Pastor Jon challenged us to work with Youth and Adult Ministry on how we can make it easier for parents in our congregation to connect with each other during the Sunday School hour.

Recommendations/Actions needed from Council: Nothing

Evangelism and Communications Board:

Meeting Jan 24, 2017: Board orientation night: Members present: Andrea Hoff, Erik Lindell, Dave Zdenek, Mark Gleason, Daniel Edwins. Staff Leah Garlie Absent: Kristin Partlo

Meeting minutes: We discussed the presentation by Prs. Pam and Jon on the state of the church and how this relates to the work of our Board. We discussed the connection between the knowledge that church attendance is declining nationwide, depression rates are up (per talk attended by Mark Gleason) and that people who attend church report being happier. We discussed what is important for us to communicate, as a Board, in light of this information. Communicating a broad inclusive welcome continues to be an important message. We also need to highlight the good works we are doing locally and globally/mission and service projects, etc.

We also did introductions and brought Mark Gleason (the only new member) up to speed on the work of the Board the past year and anticipated projects for the coming year.

Meeting 2/7/17: Members present: Andrea Hoff, Daniel Edwins, Kristin Partlo, staff Leah Garlie Absent: Dave Zdenek, Erik Lindell, Mark Gleason

Meeting minutes:

The primary topic of discussion was the recent Council vote to become an RIC congregation and next steps for communicating this decision. Many of our ideas circled back to the website and the need to update the website to make it consistent with the new graphic identity along with adding on relevant information about RIC. We discussed the new welcome statement and where it should go (website, worship bulletin).

First steps – Press release of some sort, likely to be written by RIC committee

Reflect RIC support on the website, including the RIC logo, explanation of RIC as well as the history of the process specific to St John's.

Should we have a version of the new logo that is RIC compatible?

April/ May: change over the mission bulletin board to include photos/experiences of Pr. Pam and St. John's members trip to Africa as well as information about RIC.

Monitors: We continue to work on developing the best position and size for the two monitors based on access to electricity, aesthetics and function. We have met with the electrician to determine the options and will make a decision in the coming weeks. Will place article in The Voice and prepare posters in advance of the monitors being installed.

Action item: Evangelism & Communications Board would like to move ahead with updating the website to reflect the new graphic identity and to make it mobile friendly. The cost to make these updates is estimated at \$5,000 by Neuger Communications. This is a significantly reduced rate. There will need to be discussion about the funding source.

Faith and Health Minutes- Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Present: Howard Thorsheim, Guenther Moesler, Bonnie Peterson, Lynette Marks, Jennifer Edwins

Excused: Leah Sand

1. Reviewed Annual Report for Faith and Health for 2016 sharing information with each other about these specific areas:
 - Emergency response plan – document Faith and Health Board prepared has been submitted to pastors.
 - AED training for ushers – Lynette will plan several training sessions.
 - Stephen Ministry program – Newly trained Stephen Ministers are awaiting care receivers. Contact one of the pastors if congregational members know of someone who could benefit from having a Stephen Minister.
 - Called to Care Ministry – Voice article February 2017 encouraging others to join this group.
2. Proposed areas of focus for 2017
 - Ministry wheel – The board worked on this in 2016. Potentially this information could be in a brochure and/or on the web listing the various caring ministries at St. John's and a brief explanation of these ministries.
 - Faith and Health Board tabling in the Commons on two Sundays, April 23 and 30. The following will be part of this tabling:
 - 911 flip booklets – helpful information for home emergency situations will be available
 - Sign-up for ushers and other interested in AED training
 - Stephen Ministry information
 - Educating Faith and Health Board about Parish Nursing and sharing what we learn with the pastors and Council.
 - Discussed possible forum topics:
 - Parish Nursing
 - Honoring Choices – health care directives
 - Responding to emergency situations
3. Refreshed supplies in the kitchen first aid kit.
4. For the next meeting, the Faith and Health Board will be reading the following information about Parish Nursing: "Holistic Healing" on pages 34-37 in **Living Lutheran** (January 2017) and looking at the websites on page 37 of **Living Lutheran** – "Creating a health ministry."

Properties and Grounds

Stewardship Board Meeting January 24, 2017

Present: Sandi, Dan, Mark, Ralph, David, Ruthie (new Council President)

Recap of Annual Meeting that took place on January 22, 2017.

- Discussion regarding Stewardship Board having 5 minutes during future Annual Mtg.

Should we follow up with non-pledgers with phone calls? After discussion, the group concluded to not make phone calls.

Sandi will coordinate with Leah for a “thank you for pledging” bulletin insert, NewsBlast, Voice article, and announcement from the pulpit by a pastor on a Sunday morning.

Engage in dialogue regarding the plans for implementing the 3 ministry goals from the stewardship drive.

Agenda for next meeting:

SAS evaluation

Dan will check to see if we can switch our next SAS meeting on the Feb. 7th from morning to afternoon. [Yeah! Accomplished!]

Next Stewardship meeting is Feb. 7th at 7 p.m.

Stewardship Board Meeting

Feb. 7th, 2017

Present: David, Mark, Ralph, Sandi, Dan, Pastor Pam

Meeting started at 7:20

Dan announced he found a replacement for Patty, David Beck. He got acquainted with him at the Blue Moon coffee shop. David is looking forward to attending the next meeting. Dan will be in contact with him to get him up to speed with the Board’s vision and into the information loop.

The group thanked Sandi and Leah for their work on the bulletin and Voice articles thanking the congregation for their generosity.

Feb 21st our action item will get discussed at the Council Mtg. Ralph will attend on Dan’s behalf as he will be gone from Feb. 14th until March 22nd in California. Now is a really good time to talk to the Council about having a stronger vision for the future.

Group discussions on Stewardship for All Seasons meeting this afternoon. Many ideas on how to articulate to the congregation and the Council how to implement what was learned at SAS on turning the ministry goals into actions in a transparent and specific way. Need to reach the “middle ground” pledgers - very important. The Board believes it is very important to have follow up stories showing how the congregation’s generosity is impacting others instead of simply saying ‘thank you’. The group agreed to have the goal of a “thank you” follow-up story every month with an article in the Voice. Sandi will write the March article on our dishwasher,

Ken, for Wednesday Night Meals. All boards need to join in the how the giving has impacted / is impacting their ministry.

The Board discussed 4 specific goals going forward:

- Impact strategy ● Conversation with planned giving
- Sandi will invite Cheryl from Foundation Board to the next Stewardship mtg.
- 2018 Campaign
- Promote Visionary Plan for generosity

Dan will start a Google Doc that everyone can add to with their thoughts / ideas on the SAS meeting today. (If a Google Doc is shared with everyone, it can be added to and changed by all members anytime.)

Closed the meeting with prayer for the Diehl - Kelvie family.

Notes from 2-7-17 Worship and Arts Board Meeting:

Members Present: Nathan, David, Barb, Nancy

Members Present in Spirit: Tony, Carolyn, Scott

Youth fundraiser donation:

*David Nitz will donate Tennis Lessons on behalf of the W&A Board

Lenten soup supper service

We are signed up to set up and serve - March 8th

*Barb and Nancy will arrive at 4. David will come at 4:30. All stay until evening service begins. We need at least one more helper!

Practical information from Kristy Harms:

Soup warmed in roasters at 300 degrees

Bowls into warming oven at 140 degrees

Lent/Holy Week/Easter schedule and plans (reported by Nathan)

2 services on Ash Wednesday

5 Wednesday evening services - Holden Evening Prayer/ Theme: Testimony (individuals will share personal stories)

Noon and 6 Maundy Thursday and good Friday

Easter Vigil at St John's

*Nathan will communicate with Evangelism board re: notifying St. Olaf students about services

150th Anniversary of St. John's 2019

Discussion of anthem commissioning

A group met regarding - finance - campaign to raise money for the celebration

A dollar amount for a commission was proposed for music or art: (\$3000)

Potential action items as plans shape up:

Who would we contact to commission something? (Ferg might do something as a gift to the church)

Process of commission? Connections, check into fees

Local resource (who to tap for ideas, connections): Brainstormed names: Carolyn, Ferg, Dr. Bob, Dan Kallmann, Judy Swanson

What was done for the 125th? – Barb had the events calendar on hand.

*Nancy will have copies on hand for everyone next month

What is the actual anniversary date? -- *Nathan

*Nathan will bring the notes from that "planning" meeting next month

*All: Think about who to contact to get involved in various artistic ways to help shape events

Next Meeting March 14th:

-We are responsible for Devotion and Snacks - Everyone contributes snack item.

Devotion ideas?

-Nathan will give an update on all the choirs, instrument maintenance, etc.

-Nancy will send out a reminder with agenda prior to the meeting

Youth Board Agenda

February 7, 2017

- 1) Devotions and Announcements in St. John's Hall
- 2) Adaptive Challenges for Youth Board
 - a. Adaptive challenges v. technical problems
 - b. Review of prior efforts
- 3) Members' Vision/initiatives
 - a. Discussion of interests for each member and area each member would like to spearhead/focus on (can be general interest or specific initiative)
 - b. Tie together with adaptive challenges
- 4) Youth Fundraiser 2/12
 - a. Update
 - b. Gaps in volunteers/items needed?
- 5) Past Events
 - a. Second Harvest
 - b. Mission Trip Update
- 6) Future Events
 - a. Teens Together - Cupcake Wars 2/11
 - i. Suggestions for generating interest

c. 2017 Dates + St. John's Congregation Council and Boards

All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Summer dates are listed and boards will meet unless an alternate time needs to be found due to schedules.

Board meetings (2nd Tuesdays)

*February 7
March 14
April 11
May 9
June 13
July 11
August 8
September 12
October 10
November 14
December 12
January 23, 2017

Council Meetings (4th Tuesdays)

*February 21 – note change
March 28
April 25
May 23
June 27
July 25
August 22
September 26
October 24
November 28
December 26 (a week early – Christmas)
January 9, 2017 (Note inversion of nights)

2017 Prayer, Devotions, and Treats Schedule

Treats and Decaf Coffee to be served on Board nights at 7:00 p.m. Plan on 50 people.

Devotions include Council Night AND Board Night (the board chair could ask a member of their board to do the devotions on board night).

Month	Prayer - Council, Devotions - Boards	Treats (board name)
January 2017	Brent Nystrom, Pastors	Orientation -- pizza
February	Ruthie Neuger, President-elect	Executive Committee
March	Todd Menssen	Children's Ministry & Education
April	Alyssa Ness	Adult Ministry & Education
May	Jane Rinehart	Benevolence and Social Concerns
June	Bill Carlson	Business Management
July	Dan Van Tassel	Stewardship
August	Jennifer Edwins	Faith & Health
September		Property and Grounds
October	Andrea Hoff	Evangelism & Communication
November	Jennifer Sorensen	Worship & Arts
December		Youth Ministry & Education
January 2018	TBD	TBD