

Agenda

Congregation Council

St. John's Lutheran Church

May 23, 2017 + 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

Boards – June 13, 2017 7:00pm (at chairs' discretion). Fellowship and treats at 6:45 pm, Business Management 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 – **June 27**, 7:00pm; Bill Carlson, prayer

3. Pastor's Report

4. Consent Agenda Items for Council

- a. Treasurer's Report, April 2017
- b. Minutes from the April 25, 2017 meeting

6. Council Action Items and Updates

- a. Capital Projects
 - i. Replace Door on East Side storage shed around \$400
 - ii. The work on the exterior windows to be completed
 - iii. The West Side doors to be refinished by a contractor. We understand that the cost is around \$3,000
 - iv. The broken window blinds in Pastor Davis' office be replaced
The total cost of these projects is less than \$15,000
- b. Grant Proposals for 150th Anniversary – Jane Rinehart
- c. Worship and Arts – Scholarship approval for Lutheran Summer Music Program
- d. Personnel Update

7. Other business

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

Original Allocations

	%	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		Balance	Date	
St. John's Fund	16,795.00	\$4,017.50		Budgeted Benevolence \$1,000 Habitat for Humanity \$1,000 Laura Baker \$1,000 Northfield Retirement Center \$1,000 Three Links \$2,500 Camping Membership \$5,000 Pajama Project \$1277.50 Seminarian Grants & College Scholarships
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	\$0	2/28/2017	
Community / Social Fund	390.00			
Soli Seminary Fund	1,015.00	\$0		Benevolence Seminarian Grants
ELCA Scholarship Fund	2,307.50	\$0		Benevolence College Scholarships
Balance Total	\$7,965.00			

Authorized 2017 Dispersals

2017 Approved Expenditure	Authorized \$ Amount	Council Approval Date	Designated Fund	Fund Balance
Update of St. John's website with new graphic identity	\$935.00	2/28/2017	Media Fund	\$0.00

2. Board Minutes/Notes from May, 2017

Adult Ministry and Education

Adult Education & Ministry Board

St. John's Lutheran Church

9 May 2017

Present: Alyssa Ness, Genevieve Quarberg, Jonathan Reid, Sandra Nyvall

Summer Suppers

Our first Summer Supper event has been scheduled for June 21st; an article in the Voice has announced this this past month, and noted that another event will be planned for later in the summer, likely on August 16th. Jen Welbaum will be tabling for this event tomorrow night (5/10) at Wednesday Night Meal; Alyssa will drop by to introduce herself and visit about upcoming details (will ask about any poster needs—and ask Jon R to handle if needed, advertising ideas, note that a member of our board will sit and table on Sundays, etc.)

Upcoming Tabling for this event:

- Jon Reid is willing to table on May 14th between services (last day of Sunday School)
- Genevieve Q can table on May 21st (NHS Senior recognition Sunday)
- Sandra N can table May 28th (service times change)
- Alyssa N can table on Jun 4th

Alyssa will check to see if a notice is going in the Sunday bulletins – will probably just shorten the Voice announcement, edit as needed and confirm that we have the details correct. Will also request that a pastor make an actual announcement during the service to call attention to the sign-ups.

Quarberg Event

The event that our board sponsored for the youth fundraiser will take place on June 25th (2:00p-4:00p) at the Quarberg home, 1604 Cannon Valley Drive in Northfield. Genevieve & Sandra discussed some details while awaiting the arrival of the rest of the board tonight, and it was decided that together they would obtain the refreshments needed for the event, and provide for roughly fifty people, just in case. We can show up and help where needed, or just come and enjoy the show.

Fall Service Day

Board members present are not sure why it's important to do this, or why our board should be involved...this type of event does not appear to clearly fall into either education or ministry categories, as they define them, so is perhaps not under our purvey. When we find out about a pressing need in the community, then we can respond, but we're not sure it's our place to go seeking out little things to minister for the sake of ministering.

Alternative idea: Go out and visit different churches, different things in the community. Different from traveling service opportunities, where learning/experiences are going on.

Forums

We had a lengthy discussion about various aspects of the Forum. Board members present feel that this is the most important thing that this board does. The current proposal from Pr. Davis for an annually-appointed committee of five people seems to make sense; a likely improvement over the larger

committee that was previously working through this. It's thought that one person from this board should be on the committee (and chair from our group), and at least one of the pastors should be in attendance as well. Jon Reid suggests Eric Lund as a good member for this committee; a great asset for this sort of thing. It's agreed that we should get representation from across age groups for a committee of this sort. We could also experiment with Forums in that if Pastors want to emphasize something or invite certain speakers, the schedule would allow for that, but then let the Board pick that up and run with it with small groups subsequently (ex: following Alan Storey event, would have had small group events on related topics); we could connect some Forums to later/ongoing events (Pub Theology, afternoon studies, etc.). Board interested in choosing or helping to choose these committee members.

Socializing with coffee is often more appealing to many congregation members; what if we don't have Forum every Sunday, or had some small group activities offered occasionally? Schedule in the openings, and then see if there are openings remaining in which to try some more experimental.

It is noted that there was a large attendance for the St. Olaf Gospel Choir this past Sunday's Forum, so we know that music is a big draw.

In Sanctuary, Forums have to be rushed out because the space will be used for next service; what if we had some Forums in the library space? If we had more mobile seating in that room that could be moved around, it might lend itself more to that sort of thing.

If we wanted to give more opportunity for input, perhaps an announcement could be made at the service that could mention that if anyone is interested in certain topics being presented, they could submit ideas.

Closing Question

Genevieve invited us to consider and ask others the following question in the coming weeks: What would people like our church to do for them in their faith? To strengthen their faith, etc.?

NO COUNCIL ACTIONS AT THIS TIME.

Benevolence and Social Concerns

Notes from Benevolence and Social Concerns Board, May 9, 2017

Present: Jo Franklin, Dave Neuger, Kathy Shea, Sue Sharrow, Jane Rinehart
Guests: Pr Pam, Sue Brockman from the Children's Board, Dan Franklin from the Youth Board, nonprofit presenters, as noted below.

We spent the evening reviewing grant proposals for the benevolence portion of the 150th Anniversary fund appeal. Five nonprofit organizations had been previously selected by the B&SC board from the 14 grants submitted. The 5 presentations were:

6:30 Jim Blaha and Carol Gengenbach, CAC

6:50 Linda Hibbard, Epic Enterprise Inc

7:10 Marnie Thompson and staff, TORCH

7:30 Dayna Norvold, Rice County Habitat

7:50 Sandi Gerdes and staff, Laura Baker Services

After the presentations we discussed the pros and cons of the proposals, and then we each gave our rankings of the five. We decided to eliminate the Epic proposal, as it was not clear how the plan would be implemented, and the sustainability was not clear.

The remaining 4 proposals were ranked as follows. How many of the proposals are funded depends on how much money is raised. If there is \$100,000 designated for benevolence, we recommend spending these amounts:

1. TORCH - Tackling Obstacles, Raising College Hopes - \$38,900.

Goal: develop an Alumni Center that would support all recent NHS graduates to reach their full potential through outreach and advising, college access resources, and career service. Total cost of the project is \$78,800, with remaining funds obtained from local, state and national grants and foundations.

2. Laura Baker Services Association: \$17,000 for Community Building through Music, Art and Technology. LBSA and St. John's Lutheran would use music, art and a special art iPad technology to develop and sustain relationships. The Wed. night meals would be used to promote these relationships with guidance from LBSA staff.

3. Community Action Center (CAC). \$20,000 as a leadership gift toward building 2 emergency shelter units on land that would be leased next to the Manger Inn (now called the Human Capital Development Foundation, or HDCF Community). Total cost of the project is projected to be \$150,000. CAC would secure the remaining funds from other county, state and national sources.

4. Rice County Habitat for Humanity. \$20,000 leadership gift from St. John's for the first Faith Builder home in Northfield in 2019. Total cost of a home is \$120 - 140,000.

Other local churches would be sought by Habitat to participate. Habitat provides stable, long term housing, which “impacts generations to come. . . this is a proven way to end generational poverty.”

Total cost for the first 2 programs: \$55,900

Total cost for all 4 programs: \$95,900.

Jane will present these at the May 23 council meeting.

Business Management

Children’s Board May 2017

Present: Eric Holleque, Katherine Norrie, Keri Peterson, Amy McBroom, Julie Brehmer; Absent – Todd Menssen; Sue Brockman attended Benevolence and Social Concerns Board

- Nursery in the summer only at the 10:00 a.m. service
- Sunday school celebration – what needs to be done
- Recognizing our St. Olaf graduates and volunteers
- YMCA Outing for our children – May 17 afterschool
- Summer Activities
 - Shores of St. Andrew
 - VBS
- Create a survey - reality check of children’s ministry - we’ll use Survey Monkey and send this to parents
- Considering a topic a month or quarter for the upcoming school year relating to parents with children and youth

Evangelism and Communication

Evangelism minutes: May 2017

Board members present: Andrea Hoff, Kristin Partly, Mark Gleason

Absent: Erik Lindell, Dave Zdenek, Daniel Edwins

RIC: We reviewed the “press release” letter written by Brent Nystrom. Kristin and Mark liked the letter overall. Suggestions included condensing the third paragraph, more fully describing the spectrum survey, including a nod to the SE Synod’s decision to become RIC in the SE Synod newsletter and perhaps adding a single tone setting sentence near the beginning of the letter that expressed more joy.

Idea offered to convert half of the “In the News” bulletin board to RIC information once the monitors are up and functioning.

Website: We discussed the update process/meetings thus far. I inquired what Kristin and Mark currently use the website for - Kristin uses current website for bulletins, sermons, calendar and to read about the functions of the various small groups in the church. Mark uses the website for the calendar. Noted – we need to include the names of the members of each Board on the website.

Monitors: Electrical work set to be completed this coming week. Tim has agreed to install the monitor mounting brackets and then Daniel will configure the Mvix system. Kristin agreed to assist Leah in setting up the screens for the monitors. Suggestion made to use half the screen for social media content.

150th Anniversary: Conversation about celebration ideas. Both Kristin and Mark felt that an oral history project was very important. Mark suggested we could air some of them on NTV.

Capital item for 150th fundraising – Mark recommended 10K for video system update. This would cover upgrading to HD digital video system (3 cameras and a video mixer)

Faith and Health Minutes- Tuesday, May 9, 2017

Present: Guenther Moesler, Bonnie Peterson, Jennifer Edwins

Excused: Lynette Marks, Leah Sand, Howard Thorsheim

Instead of our regularly scheduled board meeting, Guenther, Bonnie, and Jennifer attended The Convenings from 6:30-8 at St. Dominc. The Convenings are sessions that are being held state-wide about Advance Care Planning with the goal of every adult having a Health Care Directive.

The session was moderated by MPR Morning Edition host, Cathy Wurzer. Cathy did a wonderful job setting the mood for the event. The program included words from Dr. Bruce Kramer, who Cathy held conversations with as he was coping with ALS. Also included in the program were interviews Cathy conducted with Leslie Moore, Director of the St. Olaf College Piper Center and author of *Turn Right, Good Moon*, Dr. Gretchen Ehresmann, medical director for Northfield Hospice, and Susan Lohmann, Director of Social Services, Northfield Hospitals and Clinic. Interspersed throughout the program were musical numbers by Occasional Jazz, Daniel Groll, and the Limestones, as well as questions that participants discussed with those sitting around them.

The event was informative and uplifting. Cathy mentioned that she will be returning in several months to check up on Northfield. If it's another public forum, we will be sure to have Faith and Health Board representation at that meeting.

Faith and Health will continue discussions about a possible Forum around this topic next year.

Agenda ideas for the next meeting:

- "Tabling" on the last two Sundays in May – how did this go
- Report on The Convenings and follow-up at St. John's
- Parish Nurse – pull together ideas to be included in a job description

Properties and Grounds

No Minutes submitted for May 2017

Stewardship Board Meeting - May 2, 2017

Location: Dan VanTassel's home

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

Dan will stop and check at David Beck's work to see if he would like to be a part of the Stewardship Board.

Pastor Pam brought the manifest of the givers names and addresses.

Each member of the Stewardship board wrote approximately 15 thank you letters to givers.

Conversation about Thrivent Financial - spearheaded by Ralph. He is going to talk to the Council regarding Thrivent.

The St. John's church website is in the process of being overhauled. Pastor Pam asked the Stewardship board to look at the website before the June meeting for more possible changes - ie. the giving portal.

On the agenda for next month:

- Fill out more thank you cards.
- Talk about Fall campaign.
- Possible chat with Jane Rizzo from Foundation Board (Pastor Pam will contact.)
 - If Jane attends, more discussion regarding Thrivent.

A big thank you to Dan for hosting this meeting in his home to get the ball rolling on writing the thank yous.

Worship and Arts

May 9, 2017

Present: Nathan, Scott, Tony, Carolyn, Nancy

Present in Spirit: David, Barb

1) Music Program Scholarship

Tarkel Price is an 8th grader and a recent new member at St. John's. He has been a faithful music minister as part of choir this year. He is very interested in going to the Lutheran Summer Music program. He attended last year. The program offers a matching gift and tuition discount when you receive a scholarship from your church.

The W&A board moved to approve a \$500 scholarship from the Music Memorial Fund to assist Tarkel in financing this program.

2) Lent and Easter Season 2017 Reflection

Nathan provided service attendance numbers to review. We experienced higher attendance on Wednesday nights all through Lent than in the past several years.

3) Stained Glass Window Restoration

We received and reviewed the formal bid for the restoration of the 3 old stained glass windows. Tony motioned, Carolyn seconded and the board passed the motion to recommend presenting this proposal to the anniversary committee, knowing that it would then become their decision to include it for consideration as they develop their fundraising goals.

4) Anniversary Year Celebrations

Our board will begin to take on more responsibility in developing a schedule for the anniversary year celebrations. Nathan has requested ample time to research and come up with some ideas. The board agreed that the theme will serve as a valuable focus and inspiration to help shape events and activities. We briefly discussed the possibility of a collaborative community art project, and there was the sense that the board will have other thoughts and ideas to contribute. We will begin more earnest work on planning during the summer months.

Youth Ministry and Education

Youth and Family Ministry Board Meeting Minutes

5/9/17

Present: Mike Skunes, Jenny Nystrom, Oden Hoff, Sue Hagen, Sylvi Hanson, Terry Gilbertson (Dan Franklin in Benevolence Meeting) Absent: Rob Nutt, Beret Froehle

1. Reviewed Recent Events
 - a. Night of Awesomeness – Romans & Christians/Bowling/YMCA. Various churches participated – 90 kids. Big St. John's group – 37.
 - b. Spirit Worship – Not well attended. Experience somewhat dependent on small group leader.

- c. Easter Breakfast – Highly successful in attendance/\$. Collected \$1400 (prior years avg \$800-\$900) which will go towards camp/mission trip costs.
 - d. Augsburg Interfaith Retreat – Well attended – 15. Visited Islamic Center/Somali Mall. Learned about Islam which was talked about further in confirmation.
2. Updates
- a. April Council Meeting recap –continuing to plan for 150 year celebration.
 - b. Association of Congregations Conference at Gustavus. Conference focused on the need to incorporate regular discussions of science in youth ministry. Message that science does not conflict with our faith but instead religion and faith equips youth to wrestle with questions of ethics in science. See www.scienceym.org for details of a Lutheran Seminary research project focused on identifying the need for science in youth ministry and developing materials to assist in that goal. Also, Gustavus has an annual summer leadership program on this topic for nominated youth - Academy for Faith, Science and Ethics. See www.gustavus.edu/chaplain/academy.
3. Upcoming Events & communication of events:
- a. End of Year Canoe Trip – May 13 (always popular)
 - b. High School Senior Recognition Lunch – May 21
 - c. Green Lake Bible Camp - June 18-23, appx. 14 attending
 - d. Mission Trip June 10-18; 14 signed up including chaperones – great numbers
4. 2017-2018 Calendar Event Planning
- a. Prior events that were successful - continue
 - i. Romans and Christians
 - ii. Night of Awesomeness
 - iii. Ski Trip
 - iv. Bowling
 - v. Interfaith Retreat
 - b. Prior events that need modifications
 - i. 2nd Harvest – suggestion of doing similar service project coupled with fun event (e.g. Trip to Feed My Starving Children and Pinstripes bowling/bocce)
 - ii. Cupcake Wars – need better ‘advertising’ or may not have interest
 - iii. Spirit Worship – not an annual event, but maybe every few years
 - c. New Events
 - i. Passing of Torch Event for incoming 6th graders
 - 1. Plan for Aug. Romans & Christians welcoming event with 6th – 9th graders
 - ii. Wednesday Night Post-confirmation
 - 1. Wednesdays after dinner for 9th – 12th graders
 - 2. Watch contemporary TV show and talk about the show/life/events
 - 3. Once/month meet with mentors (optional to have mentor)

5. Next Meeting – **June 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**

****Youth Board in Charge of Treats – Strawberries & shortcake/etc.**

Arrive at 6:40 to set-up

a. Assignment –Let Jenny know what you are bringing for treats.

NO ACTION ITEMS FOR COUNCIL