

The First Lutheran Church Council met Wednesday, November 9, 2023. President Austin Charlson called the meeting to order and opened with prayer at 7:15 p.m. Others present were Zach Dahlgren, Michael McLoughlin, Barb Mussman, Joyce Charlson and Shelby Fisher.

Motion by Michael, seconded by Joyce to approve the October minutes. Ayes all. Motion carried.

Motion by Zach, seconded by Joyce to approve the November 5 minutes of the congregational meeting with one change. There were 28 members present. Ayes all. Motion carried.

Michael gave the treasurer's report. Last month's totals are in parenthesis.

General Account Balance: \$60,176.17 (\$53,518.11)

First Citizens: \$19,938.20 (\$23,442.75)

Good Samaritan Fund \$1858.25 (\$1858.25)

Youth Funds \$1079.74 (\$1079.74)

Vanguard: \$40,237.97 (\$30,075.36)

Memorial Fund Balance: \$22,298.81 (\$22,227.21)

First Citizens \$2,247.39 (\$2,247.39)

Vanguard: \$20,141.24 (\$20,051.42)

Food Pantry Fund: \$20,303.93 (\$19,804.82)

Parsonage Fund: \$131,052.07 (\$134,192.10)

Inflow (contributions and interest: \$12,453.53 (\$15,618.89)

Outflow from general fund: \$5,958.08 (\$3,010.62)

NOTES: Quarterly payroll taxes were paid this month.

Motion by Barb, seconded by Joyce to accept the Treasurer's report. Ayes all. Motion carried.

In other financial business: Motion by Michael, seconded by Joyce to reimburse the Woodley family \$218.00 from the youth fund for camp registrations at Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp. Ayes all. Motion carried. Members are reminded that funds are available for partial or full scholarships for children to attend Bible camps.

Office report: Shelby has been helping coordinate registrations and financial donations for the Food Pantry turkey distribution on November 19. Motion by Barb, seconded by Joyce to contribute \$150.00 for turkeys. Ayes all. Motion carried.

Unfinished business:

Zach explained the quote for a security system for the church building. The current estimate includes three cameras, an intercom with a camera, dvr system, remote unlock and all necessary installation and parts. Motion by Michael, seconded by Joyce to accept the bid of \$7842.57 from Electronic Specialties, Inc. of Algona. Ayes all. Motion carried. A complete spec sheet is available in the church office.

New business:

1. The council recently learned that First Lutheran has a safe deposit box at First Citizens Bank. Two of the authorized signers are local and there is at least one key available. Michael will contact Bruce Frink to accompany him to the bank to remove the current authorized signers and replace them with Michael McLoughlin, Marcia Larson and Austin Charlson. Further, the new signers are directed to relinquish the safe deposit box if they determine it is no longer needed. Ayes all. Motion carried.

2. Shelby received an email from Meals From the Heartland. After discussion it was the consensus that no action be taken on this project at this time.

3. Several members have requested more timely distribution of council meeting minutes. Currently they are sent out in the Inspirer after they are approved, resulting in distribution up to 6 weeks

after the meeting. Motion by Zach, seconded by Michael to approve future minutes by email within a 10 day period following the meeting and authorize Shelby to send them out immediately following approval. Ayes all. Motion carried.

Chairman reports:

Education: Dani Scheffel reports that Sunday School is still going well, Austin will begin Confirmation instruction on December 3, continuing through spring. There are four students eligible for instruction.

Maintenance: Zach will talk to Mark and recommend replacing the handle on the Food Pantry door rather than trying to repair it.

Motion by Zach, seconded by Michael to adjourn. Ayes all. Motion carried. Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting is December 13 at 7 p.m.

Submitted by Barbara Mussman