

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 20, 2021**

Present: Pastor Birgitte, Linda Burk, Linda Bauers, Eileen Cordray, Sue Smith, Karen Hanson, Phyllis Paulsen, Mary Sopkowiak, Darcy Hansen, Jim Frohreich, Patty Frohreich

Call to Order: President Linda Burk called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.

Candle lit: "Jesus Christ is the Light of the World; The light no darkness can overcome."

Devotions: Pastor Birgitte shared a reading from a daily devotional book "A Way Other Than Our Own", by author Walter Brueggemann. She will be utilizing this resource throughout the Lenten season beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 17th to Maundy Thursday, April 1st, 2021.

In Recognition: Pastor Birgitte recognized the service of President Linda Burk, as her term is ending.

Caring Conversations: Sharing of challenges related to COVID-19.

Approval of Minutes from December 16, 2020:

Motion: Sue Smith, 2nd Eileen Cordray to approve the December 16, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda: No formal approval of Agenda

Pastor's Report: Review of the December 8, 2020 – January 11, 2021 Pastor's Report

Parish Council Update:

- Ash Wednesday services will be held at First Lutheran Church
- Joint worship service will be held at First Lutheran Church for the month of February following COVID-19 guidelines.
- If someone does not feel comfortable with service, they may come into the church office during the day and Pastor Birgitte will do personal service for the individual.

Financial Reports:

Treasurers Report: Mary Sopkowiak provided council with January 18, 2021 Treasurer's Report documents:

- 2020 Year End – Account Balances (Income and Disbursements)
- 2021 Budget
- 2018 – January 2021 Historical Balances
- First Lutheran Church Treasurers Report 2020 Total Income

Financial Secretary Report: Eileen Cordray reported that statements are in the mail.

Old Business:

- **Furnace Electrical Work:** Mark Washburn has had no response from the electrician. Linda Burk will contact Air Systems and request assistance.
- **Surveillance Cameras:** One camera was installed that focused on the nativity scene; additional cameras have not yet been installed.
- **TV Screens for Sanctuary:** Jeff Bauers has an estimate of 5199.98 for two screens/BestBuy and is exploring safe options to transport the devices.

New Business:

- **First Annual Meeting – January 24, 2021:** Discussion: members desire to worship together in the sanctuary, followed immediately by the annual meeting. The Annual Meeting will include the 2021 Budget vote, and recruitment for Vice President.

Motion: Phyllis Paulsen, 2nd Darcy Hansen for in-person worship followed by Annual meeting. Motion carried.

✓ Pastor Birgitte will be in touch with Kay Schell regarding COVID-19 concerns.

- **Ash Wednesday Worship, February 17, 2021:** conflicts with First monthly Council meeting.

Motion by Phyllis Paulsen, 2nd Mary Sopkowiak to reschedule the First meeting to February 10, 2021. Motion carried.

- **Inactive Members:** Pastor Birgitte is drafting a postcard checklist communication that she would like to send out to all inactive members, and keep the door open for return to active status.
- Dissolution of the Lake of the Woods Bible Camp was completed by December 29, 2020 via a ZOOM meeting. It will be 60-90 days before funds are designated. Linda Bauers will report on this at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 24, 2021.
- **Church Mutual Insurance:** Mary Sopkowiak provided information to assist us in understanding the mechanism of our church insurance.
 - Each church has its own separate insurance policy.
 - The Parish is an entity with a tax ID number.
 - The Parish must buy a “liability only” policy for the Parish (as the Parish is an entity with “no” building)
 - Property deductible is increasing from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per incident.
 - Cyber Liability coverage: (costing \$65.00 of the total premium); optional; a Cyber Liability Information document was provided.

Motion by Darcy Hansen, 2nd by Sue Smith add the Cyber Liability to the coverage.

- **Education:** There will be a need to recruit for Sunday School education
- **Evangelism:** currently vacant
- **Property:** Jim Frohreich reported on the purchase of a sand/salt spreader to be utilized in the center isle between the parked cars
- **Worship and Music:** Sue Smith is working with Pastor Birgitte.
- **FLCW:** Karen Hanson prepared a report for the annual Meeting, as she will not be available, and Monica will be covering.

Future Meetings:

- **Parish – Tuesday February 9, 2021 at 6:00 pm (Zoom/In-Person at First Lutheran)**
- **First – Wednesday February 10, 2021 at 6:00 pm**
- **Beacon Newsletter Deadline - January 21, 2021 2:00 PM**

Adjournment:

Motion by Mary Sopkowiak, second by Sue Smith to adjourn meeting at 7:35 pm. Motion carried.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,

Patty Frohreich, Secretary