**Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes, Thursday, April 7, 2022 – 6:30 pm**

President Shannon Bruhns called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Members present: Drake Abbey, Marci Adeogun, Shannon Bruhns, Sue Langerud, Sondra Nelson, Mary Peterson, Pastor Joel Guttormson and Cindy Haugsdal.

Member absent: Al Skellenger

Pastor Joel led us in devotions and prayer.

**Secretary’s Report:** March Minutes were available for review. There were no additions or corrections.

Mary moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Sondra. All approved.

Communication and correspondence – A Thank you was received from Pastor Steve Smith for condolences expressed by Salem at the time of his mother’s death. Donations to Salem in memory of Norma Thompson have been acknowledged. We received our 2022 first quarter ELCA Congregational Giving report and have met 100% of our intent. Cindy presented a request from the LM Public Library for a donation to support the summer reading programs. Sue moved to donate $100, seconded by Mary. All approved.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Drake provided a written and verbal report.

Total income for March 2022 $19,339.49

Total Expenses for March 2022 $23,096.79 (Income less expense -$3,757.30)

Drake noted that utilities have doubled compared to last year.

Checking account balance (3/31/2022) $35,156.61

CD’s at FTSB (3/31/2022) Reserves $26,014.17/Ness Estate $10,614.41

CD at MBT (3/31/2022) Ness Estate $52,215.45

**Financial Secretary’s report:** Sondra provided a written and verbal report

2022 YTD total offerings (3/28/2022) $45,551

2020 YTD total offerings (3/31/2021) $52,386

Mary moved to accept Treasurer and Financial reports, seconded by Sue. All approved.

**Board Reports**

**Board of Worship and Music:**  Mary provided a report: Reviewed plans for upcoming services – Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter; Board will assist with set up of the Resurrection Garden; Organ repairman was here and repaired the organ for the ongoing problem at no charge, he also noted that there is need for additional repairs in the near future that will cost around $2000; the board is working on resuming acolytes and assistant communion servers; the Board discussed the Saturday evening service including attendance and participation, and unanimously recommends that the Saturday evening service be discontinued, and the Sunday service be moved to 8:30 am in order to maintain the radio broadcast. This recommendation will be added to the new business of the next council meeting.

**Board of Life & Growth:** Sue provided a written and verbal report: Soup and bread meals have continued through Lent; A celebration of Birthdays planned for September 11, 2022; A Bible study is being planned at Mills Harbor; Looking into a church directory with photos taken locally.

**Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry:** Al was absent. Pastor Joel shared that the Board is working on a Thankfulness meal planned for Sunday, May 1, 2022.

**Board of Property and Management:** The Board is working on addressing multiple issues including: Kitchen – checking the function of the coffee maker, discolored cabinets and loose countertops; Furnace fan in Narthex being evaluated by Dan Kirschbaum; Boiler inspection in January resulted in a violation that is being addressed; reviewed the Loss Control Report issued by Grinnell Mutual, working to address Category 2 recommendations; Chapel use was discussed; Bell tower will be reevaluated regarding options and costs; Will develop a priority list of items that require attention; Began to review current by-laws in preparation for the draft proposed constitution.

**Board of Youth:** Jen and Marci provided a written report. Marci led discussion of items in the report that included: Bingo and fellowship on March 13 was well attended; VBS will be June 6-9 with the closing program at Salem. More updates after next meeting on April 10, 2022.

**Pastor Report – Complete Pastor reports are available for review in the church office.**

**Lead Pastor’s Report:** Pastor Joel shared a written report that included Pastoral acts in February and accounting for vacation and continuing education days/Sundays used and planned. Additional topics in his report included:

* Vacation – Planning a trip to the North Shore June 20-26.
* Jury Duty – Pastor is on Jury Duty with trial dates – 4/22, 5/4 and 6/1.
* Pastor’s compensation and W2 – FICA withholding on W2 form was not correct, this has been addressed and corrected.
* New and Renewing Membership Classes went well and there will be plans to offer again in the fall.
* Confirmation Retreat – Pastor reviewed attendance and costs involved with the retreat. Four Salem confirmands attended along with 1 guest confirmand from One in Christ. Recommended discussion to consider if we have the participation and resources to continue the retreat.
* Mills Harbor Bible study – Salem has been asked to lead a Bible study at Mills Harbor. Plans are for a weekly Bible study on Thursdays at 1:00 pm.
* Summer Feeding Program – Communication has indicated that the food program can no longer be served “grab and go”. The meals need to be served as before the pandemic. Pastor will be meeting with Pastor Bill Peters to coordinate the program.

Sondra moved to approve Board/Pastor reports, seconded by Mary. All approved.

**Old Business:**

1. Constitution
   1. Review ELCA Model Constitution and Guidelines – Shannon provided a draft of the first 12 chapters of the proposed Constitution for Salem following the ELCA model constitution for council members to review.

**New Business:**

1. Approve Confirmands – Mary moved that the following students be approved for Confirmation/Affirmation of Baptism on Sunday May 15, 2022: Abby Beaty, Jersey Budach, Landyn Christian, Sam Grothe, Avah Klebsch, Austin Manne, Gracie Pederson, Zach Stene, Dakota White. Sue seconded the motion. All approved.
2. New members – None. New member requests have been received and Shannon will be emailing council for a vote on acceptance.
3. Transfers/statistical adjustments – Elise Skellenger requests to transfer her membership to First Lutheran in Decorah, Iowa. Sue moved to accept transfer, seconded by Mary. All approved.
4. Next meeting will be held Thursday, May 12, 2022, at 6:30 pm

Mary moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Drake. All approved.

The meeting was adjourned.

We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Haugsdal

ADDENDUM: Shannon emailed all council members on 4/10/2022 and advised that Salem has received requests for membership from Gary Heimdal and Krystle Foley and daughter Paisley. Marci moved to accept Gary Heimdal and Krystal Foley and daughter Paisley as new members at Salem. Cindy seconded the motion. All council members approved. Motion passed.