**Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes, Thursday, February 9, 2023 – 6:30 pm**

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

Members present: Marci Adeogun, Shannon Bruhns, Doug Bruhns, Laura Gardner, Sue Langerud, Mary Peterson, Dan Rice, Cindy Haugsdal and Pastor Joel Guttormson.

Guests: Mike Swenson attended and volunteered to fill the vacancy for Board chairman for the Board of Property and Management. Mike was thanked and the council will vote to accept Mike as the acting chairman of the Board of Property and Management and Shannon will contact him regarding this vote.

Pastor Joel led us in devotions and prayer.

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

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

Communication and correspondence – Anonymous donation for $50; Anonymous benefactor has contributed $50,000 to the Tuckpointing Project and will be thanked by Salem through Al Skellenger; Request from LMCS After Prom Committee for donation. Mary moved to support with a $50 donation, seconded by Laura. All approved.

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

Total income for January 2023 $16,205.00

Total Expenses for January 2023 $22,830.09 (Income less expense -$6,625.09)

Checking account balance 1/31/2022) $174,841.31

CD’s at FTSB (1/31/2023) Reserves $26,014.17/Ness Estate $3,230.02

CD at MBT (1/31/2023) Ness Estate $52,215.45

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

2023 YTD total offerings (1/30/2023) $15,107

2022 YTD total offerings (1/30/2022) $14,717

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

**Board Reports**

**Board of Worship and Music:**  Mary provided a verbal and written report: The board met on 1/26/2023 – discussion included: new payment schedule for live stream; Hand bells need reconditioning; welcomed new board member Bruce Adams and will send thank you notes to Krishna Hansen and Nancy Guttormson; plans for Ash Wednesday and Lenten services which will be focused on Prayers Around the Cross with soup provided by Life and Growth Board; Pulpit supply beginning in June.

**Board of Life & Growth:** Sue provided a verbal and written report: Coffee fellowship and goodies management; Ash Wednesday service will be February 22 at 5:30 pm and Lenten services on Wednesdays March 1-29; Devotions and Soup and Bread on Lenten Wednesdays at noon after bible study and prior to Lenten devotions.

**Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry:** Dan provided a written and verbal report: The board met on 2/8/2023 – Dan led a discussion of items in the report that included: Letter addressing Salem mission and stewardship and role in the community will be mailed later this month; planning quarterly reports to congregation at coffee time by stewardship and treasurer; planning a 2nd Annual Salem BBQ Luncheon in April; Participation in the Thrivent Choice dollars program continues to be encouraged by members who are eligible.

**Board of Property and Management:** Shannon provided a written and verbal report: Board met on 1/18/2023 – Shannon led a discussion of items in the report that included: Chapel update is pending; Grinnell insurance continue to collect Certificate of Liability Insurance from groups who use our facilities; Tuckpointing project continues to grow and we have received the $50,000 anonymous donation to match our giving; Congregational ‘Work Day’ is pending; Food Shelf status and temperature issues continue to be reviewed and discussed; discussion on developing a plan for Phase 2 of Bell Tower project.

**Board of Youth:** Marci provided a verbal and written report. Marci led a discussion of items in the report that included: Faith Formation will be singing during worship on March 5 and April 2; Family Bingo in the Fellowship Hall following the March 5 service; There will be a bake sale (looking for donations of baked goods) before and after worship on April 2 (Palm Sunday); Easter egg hunt for Faith Formation students on April 2, 2023; First Communion Classes scheduled for 5th graders/parents; last day of Faith Formation will be April 30, along with spring clean-up with students/parents/families and a meal in fellowship hall following.

**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 January and accounting for vacation and continuing education days/Sundays used and planned. Additional topics in his report included:

* Highlighted the Living Waters Conference Assembly will be held on Sunday, February 19, 2023, at 3:00 pm. At First Lutheran Church in Northwood, Iowa.

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

Pastor Joel left the meeting following his report.

**Old Business:**

1. Constitution (Continued)
   1. Review ELCA Model Constitution and Guidelines – no new report.
2. Call Committee Report – Surveys continue to be returned and completed online. The committee is reaching out to LM Chamber to get demographics of our community as well as other data collection for the Ministerial Site Profile.

**New Business:**

1. Open Council/Board positions – Mike Swenson has volunteered to fill the vacancy for Board Chair of Property and Management. Marci moved to accept Mike Swenson as acting Board Chair of Property and Management, seconded by Doug. All approved. The vacancy for Vice President was discussed.
2. Board Contact Information – Council members should provide Marci with current email, phone, and address information to compile a current contact sheet.
3. Bank Signatories – Shannon will take care of updating at MBT and FTSB.
4. Board Invoicing approval process – Doug reviewed his role as a licensed CPA and ethical obligations linked to licensing that follows him in his volunteer role as Treasurer at Salem. He recommends that all invoices for board expenses be signed by Board Chairperson prior to checks being issued. Logistics of this process were reviewed.
5. Tuckpointing Project Funds – Discussed moving these funds to the FTSB Building Account. Doug moved to transfer Tuckpointing Funds to the FTSB Building Account, seconded by Dan. All approved.
6. Move undesignated memorials/giving to General Fund annually. Dan moved to place all undesignated memorials/giving to the General Fund annually, seconded by Laura. All approved.
7. New members – None.
8. Transfers/statistical adjustments – In a continuing effort to achieve a more accurate listing of active members of Salem, the following members/families do not have a current address at Salem based on returned letters with unknown addresses: Jeremi Throne, Ashley Buol, Alana Throne, Chrissy and Claire Grothe, Beau Honsey, Anthony Ranes, Jamie Turnbull, Kevin Knudtson, Jayde Thompson, Ben Moretz. Kathy and Rich Wirt have requested being moved to the friends list. Doug moved to transfer these members to the Friends of Salem list as a statistical adjustment, seconded by Marci. All approved.
9. Next meeting will be held Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the Salem library.

Dan moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Doug. All approved. The meeting was adjourned.

We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Haugsdal