**Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes – Thursday, June 10, 2021 – 6:30 pm**

President Shannon Bruhns called the meeting to order.

Members present: Drake Abbey, Marci Adeogun, Shannon Bruhns, Sue Langerud, Heather Mannes, Sondra Nelson, Al Skellenger, Pastor Joel Guttormson and Cindy Haugsdal

Member absent: Scott Hagenson, Al Skellenger

**Devotions and Prayers**: Sondra led us in devotions and prayer.

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

Heather moved to accept the minutes. Drake seconded the motion. All approved.

Communications and Correspondence – LM Chamber Development Corp requesting donations/sponsorship of children’s activities for July Jubilee. Heather moved to give $100 to LM Chamber for July Jubilee support. Marci seconded the motion. All approved. Marci will send a check to the chamber.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Drake reviewed the report.

Total income for May $17,771.15

Expenditures for May $24,108.54 (-6,337.39)

Checking account balance (5/31/2021) $38,032,15

Building Fund balance (5/31/2021) $2,631.36

CD’s at Farmer’s Trust Bank $26,014.17/$10,526.47

CD at MBT $30,000/$151.23

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

2021 YTD total offerings (6/1/2021) $92,115

2020 YTD total offerings (6/1/2020) $101,661

Marci moved to accept treasurer report, Sue seconded the motion. All approved.

**Board Reports**

**Board of Worship and Music –** Heather provided a verbal report. Thrivent funds will be used for replacing/updating livestream camera and related equipment. Brad Evenson will be assisting with this purchase. Pastor supply for Saturday/Sunday July 3-4 will be Sondra Nelson and Saturday/Sunday July 10-11 will be Pastor Steve Smith.

**Board of Life & Growth** – Sue Langerud provided a written and verbal report. The 100th Anniversary of Salem Church dedication went well. Planning continues for the Virginia Thomas Memorial Concert/hymn sing with members of the National Lutheran Choir, including organist David Cherwien, Artistic Director of the NLC. Plans are for this concert to take place on Saturday, July 10th at 4:00 pm. Sue and her board along with Pastor Joel, Kathy Nelson and Diane Fleming (friend of Virginia) are working to coordinate this effort.

**Board of Stewardship –** Al Skellenger was not present/no report.

**Board of Property and Management** – Scott Hagenson was not present – he provided a verbal report to Shannon. He gave an update re: the coffee maker in the kitchen. Work to repair continues. Air conditioning in the sanctuary not cooling as expected. Shannon will contact Scott to address.

**Board of Youth –** Jennifer provided a written report. Marci led discussion of items in the report that included: Successful completion of school year activities including Faith Formation, Confirmation, and recognition of our HS graduates. VBS with One in Christ was this week. Ingham-Okoboji Day Camp scheduled at Salem in August.

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

Pastor Joel submitted a written report which included Pastoral acts in May and accounting for vacation and continuing education days/Sundays used and planned. Additional topics in his report included:

* Latino Ministry – This ministry has found a location to support a Spanish speaking Worship community in Thompson, Iowa.
* National Day of Prayer – Decreasing attendance at this service has led to discussion of alternative strategies for ecumenical community worship. Pastor Joel and Pastor Rob Lamphere have discussed options, such as a community “Prayer Walk”.
* June is Pride Month – Pastor Joel highlighted 10 years of ELCA partnership in ministry with our LGBTQ brothers and sisters. He shared a link to Bishop Eaton’s video “Fearfully and wonderfully proud” published June 4, 2021 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QSvw2YuxbPk>
* NEIA Synod Assembly – Virtual conference will be held this Saturday, June 12, 2021. Pastor Joel, Shannon and Sondra will be participating online.
* Summer Worship – Reviewed summer activities and planning.
* Faith Formation – Beginning to work on curriculum for fall Confirmation classes that will begin September 12, 2021.
* Visits – As pandemic restrictions continue to decrease; visitation opportunities have increased. Pastor will be leading worship and offering communion at the LM Care Center on June 23. Pastor is also exploring options/plans for fellowship opportunities.

Sue moved to approve board/pastor reports, Heather seconded the motion. All approved.

**Old Business:**

1. Cemetery Loan Letter review – A proposed letter was shared with council. Plan to send out to the congregation later this summer.
2. Covid-19 Management Update: The team met June 3, 2021
   1. Policy Revision – Shannon shared revisions to the Covid policy based on changes in CDC guidelines. These changes will be announced this weekend at both services.
   2. Next Steps – The team will meet again to review further changes over the summer.
3. Office Administrator Position Proposal – Tabled for this month. Shannon, Drake and Pastor Joel will continue to work on a proposal for a fulltime position.
4. Constitution and By-Laws – Tabled for this month.

**New Business:**

1. July Jubilee National Lutheran Choir Concert (Diane Fleming) – Addressed under Board of Life and Growth.
2. Stewardship – Sondra will be sending out Semi-Annual Giving statements in early July. Pastor Joel and Sondra discussed recommendations from Pastor Mark Anderson regarding ongoing Stewardship practices throughout the year. The statements are to serve as a “thank you” to members for giving so far this year and share goals/priorities looking forward. Including the letter about retiring the Cemetery loan along with semi-annual giving statements was discussed.
3. CD – Due 7/28/2021 – Drake reported that the $30,000 CD (Ness Estate) at MBT will be due to renew on 7/28/2021. Tabled to July council meeting.
4. Any other New Business - None
5. New Members: None
6. Transfers: None
7. Next Meeting Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall.

Sue moved that the meeting be adjourned, Heather seconded the motion. All approved, meeting adjourned.

We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Haugsdal