**Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes, Thursday, October 12, 2023 – 6:30 pm**

President Shannon Bruhns called the meeting to order.

Members present: Marci Adeogun, Shannon Bruhns, Doug Bruhns, Sue Langerud, Dan Rice, Cindy Haugsdal.

Absent: Laura Gardner, Mary Peterson, Mike Swenson

Shannon opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

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

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

Communication and correspondence – received 2 anonymous donations of $50 each and which will be deposited in the general fund; received a request for support from Waldorf Lutheran College as they continue the successful transition under the ownership of Waldorf Lutheran College foundation – discussion resulted in a decision to pass this request on to Stewardship board for consideration to provide giving opportunity for members through a future Noisy offering.

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

Total income for September 2023 $149,492.61

Total Expenses for September 2023 $114,699.80 (Income less expense $34,792.81)

Checking account balance (9/30/2023) $44,524.63

FTSB/Tuckpointing account balance (9/30/2023) $52,094.32

CD’s at FTSB (9/30/2023) Reserves $26,014.17

CD at MBT (9/30/2023) Ness Estate $48,334.93

Doug pointed out a discrepancy in the Statement of Income and Expense. In the account 0–General Offerings/06-Thrivent Choice Giving and 02–Our Boards at Work/06-Altar Guild the amounts were listed as negative under Income and were actually expenses, therefore will be moved to the expense section of the statement for each account.

**Financial Secretary’s report:** Laura provided a written report.

2023 YTD total offerings (9/27/2023) $136,331

2022 YTD total offerings (9/30/2022) $156,299

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

**Board Reports**

**Enduring Gift Fund:** Wayne Van Veldhuizen submitted a report that noted the total value of this account at $437,987.90. The quarterly (July/Aug/Sept) report, including balance of each fund/interest was not available, but will be presented at the November Council meeting.

**Board of Worship and Music:**  Mary provided a written report and Shannon shared a review of the report: Special music will be provided on Sunday, October 15 by Dave Melby. Ron Langfald has arranged this in memory of his wife, Ardis, who passed away one year ago; Faith Formation will be singing on October 22; 4 year olds and 3rd Graders will receive bibles on October 29; All supply pastors have agreed to provide children’s time; Confirmation is off to a good start; looking for additional help to be trained to run sound system and live stream.

**Board of Life & Growth:** Sue provided a written and verbal report: Lutheran World Relief shipment for fall will be October 14; November 5 will be the congregational birthday party following worship in the fellowship hall, still looking for volunteers to decorate a table for each month; Christmas decorating at Salem is being planned for December 2.

**Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry:** Dan provided a verbal report: Continues to work on stewardship drive planning that will begin later this month.

**Board of Property and Management:** Mike provided a report via text message: Talked to the the architect with Dean Snyder who has been talking with Dave Randall, who was also present to inspect the bell tower, and they are working on a plan to present to Salem for removal of the bell tower; Young Construction has not provided a date for when they will be available to shingle the south steeple; Continue to keep an eye on temperatures in the education wing and leaking in the chapel.

**Board of Youth:** Marci provided a written and verbal report: Eight of our confirmation students attended the UNI Lock-in; No interest from youth at Salem to attend the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering; Bible classes for 3rd graders will be October 15 and 22 and Bible Sunday will be October 29 with 4 year olds and 3rd graders receiving bibles; Postcards sent for this event were not received by all, so were sent again; Faith Formation is singing on October 22; Trunk or Treat scheduled for October 29 from 4:30-5:30, volunteers needed to host a “trunk” and donate cookies/bars/snacks (sign up sheets are in the Narthex and on a table across from the chapel); Planning for Christmas program (December 10) continues.

**Pastoral Care Support:** Funeral planning for two services with local pastors officiating at Salem.

**Pastor’s Report:** none

Sue moved to accept board reports, seconded by Doug. All approved.

**Old Business:**

1. Call Committee Report – working on questions for interview process.
2. Capital Project Update – see property and management report.
3. Nominating Committee for 2024 Council and Boards – the committee is working hard on recruiting members to fill openings for 2024

**New Business:**

1. Building Use – discussed the importance of lights being turned off and doors locked when using the facility. Shannon reported an incident that has been reported to the local authorities.
2. Stewardship Drive – beginning this month, see earlier Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry report.
3. 2024 Budget Planning – Doug provided and reviewed a budget worksheet for 2024 and asked board chairs to review and project potential expenses for 2024.
4. 2024 Annual Meeting – January 21, 2024 (Backup date – January 28) in the Fellowship Hall. Meal to follow.
5. Board Objectives Review – Tabled until next meeting.
6. New members – None
7. Transfers/statistical adjustments – Brooke Swanson requests transfer of membership from Silver Lake Lutheran Church to Salem. Marci moved that we accept this transfer of membership, seconded by Sue. All approved.
8. Next meeting will be held Thursday, November 9, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the Salem library.

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

We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Haugsdal