**Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes, Thursday, August 18, 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, Al Skellenger, Pastor Joel Guttormson and Cindy Haugsdal.

Absent: Mary Peterson

Pastor Joel led us in devotions and prayer.

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

Drake moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Marci. All approved.

Communication and correspondence – None

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

Total income for July 2022 $15,623.00

Total Expenses for July 2022 $19,829.46 (Income less expense -$4,206.46)

Checking account balance (7/31/2022) $22,478.01

CD’s at FTSB (7/31/2022) Reserves $26,014.17/Ness Estate $10,614.41

CD at MBT (7/31/2022) Ness Estate $52,215.45

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

2022 YTD total offerings (8/2/2022) $112,486

2021 YTD total offerings (8/2/2021) $136,427

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

**Board Reports**

**Board of Worship and Music:**  Mary was absent and there was no written report. Shannon shared that the board had met and discussed worship service opportunities for confirmations students/families and they are trying to organize a bell choir.

**Board of Life & Growth:** Sue provided a verbal report: New and Renewing members classes in August were cancelled due to lack of participants; September 11, God’s Work Our Hands with Quilts displayed in the sanctuary; October 16, Birthday Party for all Salem members following the church service.

**Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry:** Al provided a verbal report. The board will assist with events on Rally Sunday including activities and a meal. They will be working on Stewardship Drive at their next meeting.

**Board of Property and Management:** Shannon provided a written and verbal report. Discussed unlocking doors not on the lock system and they are setting up a system; South Boulevard work still pending; Plaster damage in the building and causes were reviewed, including the bell tower; discussed potential future uses of the chapel; Boiler violation update work has been completed.

**Board of Youth:** Jen and Marci provided a written report. Marci led discussion of items in the report that included: Fall and Winter calendars including August 21 – Blessing of the Backpacks; September 11 – God’s Work Our Hands – request food bank donations; September 18 – Rally Sunday with carnival games and prizes; September 25 – First Day of Faith Formation & Confirmation Parent/student meeting; October 16 – Youth will sing and Salem Birthday Party afterward; October 30 – 4 year olds and 3rd graders receive bibles; December 18 – Christmas program. Letters and registration forms were sent to Faith Formation families and Confirmation families.

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

* Resources from ELCA Churchwide Assembly – Pastor Joel shared the website for resources available from this year’s assembly.
* New and renewing membership classes for August were cancelled due to no participants.
* Pastoral Care in case of emergency – Pastor Joel shared that he was contacted and responded to calls, texts and emails during vacation in July.
* Summer feeding program went well – Pastor gave updates based on the annual State review/audit and Food Inspection. In appreciation for hosting the summer feeding program at Salem, there are funds to shampoo the carpets in the fellowship hall.
* Safe Gatherings – Reminder that Salem follows a “two-person rule” so that our board is using best practices and good sense as we provide programming. Salem continues to encourage all volunteers to receive S.A.F.E Ministry Training as recommended by our Northeastern Iowa Synod. Marci has the link and shared with Board of Youth volunteers.
* Pastor Joel shared information regarding an upcoming wedding and the adjustments with accountability that he has made to support members personal requests for this service.

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

**Old Business:**

1. Constitution (Continued)
   1. Review ELCA Model Constitution and Guidelines – Shannon continues to review and is reaching out to resources at the Synod and is looking for members to participate in the review process.

B. Member Connection Program – continue development of this program.

**New Business:**

1. Develop Strategic Planning Committee – Shannon shared copies of the Salem Visioning Report prepared by Pastor Peter Soli in 2015 based on member input at that time. She requests that council review this information. A future committee will be organized to prepare future strategic planning for Salem.
2. New members – None.
3. Transfers/statistical adjustments – William and LaRita Bakken transfer to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Tama, Iowa. Al moved to accept the request for transfer of membership, seconded by Sue. All approved.
4. Next meeting will be held Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 6:30 pm

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

We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Haugsdal