

Salem Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes – Thursday, January 14, 2021 – 6:30 pm
Virtual meeting held on Zoom due to Covid-19

Acting President Shannon Bruhns called the meeting to order.

Members present: Marci Adeogun, Shannon Bruhns, Scott Hagenson, Sue Langerud, Heather Mannes, Sondra Nelson, Mike Swenson, Pastor Joel Guttormson and Cindy Haugsdal

Devotions and Prayers: Pastor Joel led us in devotions and prayer.

Secretary's Report: December minutes were available for review. Cindy noted corrections made after minutes distributed: Marci revised hours she will be in the Church office on Wednesdays, 9-2pm; Under the annual meeting agenda continuing resolutions, Constitution **"and By-Laws"** Revision (2020 carryover) was added. Mike moved to accept the November minutes, Sondra seconded the motion. All approved.

Communications and Correspondence – Lake Mills Chamber Development Corporation annual membership invoice. (Addressed later in the meeting).

Treasurer's Report: Report was available for review.

Total income for December \$43,255.00

Expenditures for December \$20,389.84

Checking account balance (11/30/2020) \$63,322.61

Building Fund (previously Htg/AC Project) balance (11/30/2020) \$736.36

CD's at Farmer's Trust Bank \$25,869.36/\$10,500

CD at MBT \$30,000

Mike reported that he has received an additional gift (\$5000) from the Eleanor Ness Estate. We are able to spend 10% of the Ness Estate gifts annually. Mike reported that he will be working closely with Drake Abbey as he takes on the Treasurer responsibilities.

Financial Secretary's report: Sondra provided a written report.

2021 YTD total offerings (1/12/2021) \$4,568

2020 YTD total offerings (1/12/2020) \$9,124

Scott moved to accept treasurer/financial secretary reports, Marci seconded the motion. All approved.

Board Reports

Board of Worship and Music – Heather provided a verbal report. The Christmas Eve service was well received. The board continues to do worship planning in collaboration with Pastor Joel and the Altar guild.

Board of Life & Growth/Board of Stewardship and Social Ministry – Sue Langerud submitted a written report. Christ in our Home/Jan-March 2021 is available; a list of volunteers able to provide rides to doctor appointments is being compiled; quilts have been assembled to be taken home and tied.

Board of Property and Management – Scott Hagenson provided a verbal report. The boiler recently passed inspection. The leaks in the education unit and the bell tower are 2 major problems that the congregation will need to take action on this year. The cemetery committee is writing a grant for funds from WCDA. These funds would be used to repair damaged headstones. Scott will look into recycling costs. Barb is doing a good job in the custodian position.

Board of Youth – Jennifer provided a written report. Marci led discussion of items in the report that included summary of Christmas video, plan to reconvene Faith Formation on 1/17/2021; Deposit sent to Ingham Okoboji for summer day camp 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 December and accounting for vacation and continuing education days/Sundays used and planned. Additional topics in his report included:

- Personal COVID-19 Journey
- Virginia Thomas Memorial Concert – need someone from Salem to be in charge of organizing this event with Virginia’s family member (Dianne Flemming) The Board of Life and Growth will take the lead on this event.
- Latino Ministry in Lake Mills – Scott moved that the Council president draft a letter requesting a business plan from the ministry that can then be presented to the council for a vote. Mike seconded the motion. All approved.
- Confirmation Retreat – May 1-2, 2021 – Pastor Joel will continue planning for this event.
- Summer Day Camp – Contract signed and registration fee paid for the week of August 3, 2021. Youth board and Pastor will continue planning.
- Lake Mills Chamber Development Corporation – Mike moved that we continue our membership and support the LM Chamber, Scott seconded the motion. All approved.
- PPP – Personal Paycheck Protection – Mike will work with Drake to check into eligibility of Salem for another PPP loan.

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

Old Business:

- A. In-Person Worship – In person worship will start again this weekend, Saturday 1/16/2021 at 5:30 and Sunday 1/17/2021 at 9:00 am.
- B. Stewardship Drive – 210 letters to active members (those who gave offering in 2020) were sent out and pledge cards are being returned. Scott suggested that additional stewardship letters be sent to include all members.
- C. Office Administrator Position – Carolyn Flo’s last day of employment at Salem was this week. Helen Rice has agreed to assist with completing Marci’s orientation and she has declined reimbursement. Marci is now able to work up to 30-32 hours/week. Pastor Joel and Marci are meeting weekly.
- D. Annual Meeting – Scheduled on January 24, 2021 at 10:00 am – Liturgy, Agenda and ballot were presented for review.

New Business:

- A. Confirmation Service Retreat – Riverside Bible Camp May 1-2, 2021. Scott moved to proceed with planning and payment for confirmation service retreat. Sue seconded the motion. All approved.
- B. Computer Evaluation Report – Shannon presented the report from Phill Siefert of Computer Systems Unlimited. This was tabled until a future meeting.
- C. Cemetery Committee Loan payments – Mike moved that \$25,000 be paid on the loan from the cemetery fund. \$20,000 from the general fund and \$5,000 (yearly withdrawal from total Ness Estate funds). Scott seconded the motion. All approved.
- E. Welcome New Board Members - Board chairs should contact new members and encourage them to attend the service and annual meeting. New board members will be installed at the meeting.
- D. New Members: None
- E. Transfers: None
- F. Visitor Comments/Questions – None
- G. Next Meeting Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall.

Mike moved to adjourn, Sue seconded the motion. All approved, meeting adjourned.

We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Cindy Haugsdal