

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2021 @ 6:30pm

Members present: Jennifer Bufkin, Terry Cotton, Jim Farrell, Sarah Sedlacek (Zoom), Pastor Keith Hohly, Carol Bunge, Sylvester Heeler, Marilyn Hunt, Debbie Taylor, Cyndee Simpson, Brenda Bass, Kristy Langdon, Jim Pierce (Zoom)

Members absent: none

Guest: Nancy Lewis, Call Committee Chair

Kris L. called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and opened the meeting with prayer. An added agenda item to tonight's meeting is a report and recommendation from the Call Committee.

Nancy L. presented the unanimous recommendation of the Call Committee and presents the Rev. Samantha Pfalzgraf (Pastor Sami) as candidate for call. Nancy gave background information on the candidate and experience she has. Nancy read excerpts from her profile and shared her strengths for ministry. Nancy had checked the four references she provided, and all were outstanding. Nancy has been in touch with the Synod office. There were questions and discussion among council members. The Council extends a formal thank you to all the members of the Call Committee for their dedication and service.

Marilyn H. presented devotions centering around the theme of being patient. "Wait until you get to the corner" story.

October devotions to be given by Kris L.

August Council Meeting Minutes were reviewed as printed. *Terry C. made the motion to accept the minutes as printed. Marilyn H. seconded. Motion carried.*

August Treasurer's Report: Cyndee S. presented the treasurer's report. *Jennifer B. made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Debbie T. seconded. Motion carried.*

Pastor Keith presented his report as printed.

Old Business:

--Call Committee report: The process is now in the Council's hands and discussion was held if Council members were ready to vote on Call Committee's recommendation tonight. It was decided that Executive Committee will work on initial financial package for candidate in order to present it at next Council meeting.

Carol B. made the motion: To accept the recommendation of the Call Committee to present the Rev. Samantha Pfalzgraf to the congregation for a call. Marilyn H. seconded. Motion carried.

Kris L. will call the Synod office tomorrow to notify them and she will also contact Pastor Sami to let her know the Council's vote tonight. Kris L. will also begin to work with her to find possible dates for Meet and Greet weekends.

--Live Streaming: There is a great need to have additional people assisting in this part of the worship service. Council was asked to think of people and ask them directly if they would serve in this manner and have them speak to Cyndee S. Sarah S. volunteered to help in this manner.

--Building Mortgage Reduction Campaign: Earlier in the year Council discussed the possibility of having another fund raiser this fall to pay down more on the mortgage. After discussion it was decided that the spring fund raiser was so successful that there will not be another fund raiser at this time.

--Fellowship Activities: Kris L. brought up the question of continued COVID numbers and if there need to be additional restrictions, especially as more activities at the church resume. Sarah S. gave her insights and opinions and feels masks continue to be warranted. It was decided that during worship and any other activities that masks are needed. It was decided to keep communion on Sunday mornings in the pews and not go forward to the rail. The Children's Message was discussed, and it was decided to leave it up to the presenter for each week whether it is recorded or presented live.

--September 25 is set apart for Sarah Pierce's ordination celebration. It was discussed and decided to go ahead with this activity. Masks will be required.

--Event Guidelines: Marilyn H. presented the guidelines she has come up with so far and will continue to work on. The costs for facility use were discussed.

New Business:

--Tolo Estate Gift: this was decided at the last meeting to be tabled until new pastor arrives

--Update on Youth Ministry: Kris L. presented that an initial meeting was held last Sunday after church and there were 20 some young people and adults present for the meeting. It was decided at that meeting that a picnic would be held this Sunday at the Sedlacek's home at noon to begin planning and building relationships. It was decided that Sunday School will begin in two weeks and will be timed so that the children will leave the service after the children's message and return right before communion. Pastor Keith will be starting the confirmation program. Kylee Meehan, college student, has stepped forward to assist in this area of ministry. There are approximately 17 young people between the ages of 9-15 in the congregation.

Pastor Keith ended the meeting in prayer.

Sarah made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Debbie T. seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Next Council meeting will be October 14, 2021 @ 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Bass, Secretary