

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2021 @ 6:30pm

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

Members absent: None

Meeting called to order by Jim Pierce.

Jim P. presented devotions centering around Ecclesiastes 3:1. In the midst of the changing of the seasons and all the other transitions we may find ourselves in we always need to remember and focus on the unchanging presence of God.

December devotions: Sarah Sedlacek

October Council Meeting Minutes were reviewed as emailed/printed. *Jennifer B. made the motion to accept the October 14 minutes as reviewed. Debbie T. seconded. Motion carried. Carol B. made the motion to accept the October 24 minutes as reviewed. Jim F. seconded. Motion carried.*

October Treasurer's Report and Financial Summary was presented as printed by Cyndee S. *Kris L. made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Marilyn H. seconded. Motion carried.*

Pastor Keith presented his report as printed.

Old Business:

--Congregational Meeting to be held Sunday, November 14, 2021, following worship service. Jim P. states that the ballot is prepared and ready for the meeting. Nancy Lewis will give a brief introduction to our candidate, Pastor Samantha Pfalzgraf. Then the ballot vote will take place to call her as our pastor.

Kris L., Ann Newman and Jim F. will be the official counters. Jennifer B. and Debbie T. also volunteered if more counters are needed. Pastor Keith is the official Synod representative to verify the votes.

--Jim P. will introduce the recommended compensation package resolution. This vote is done by voice.

--One Time Event Guidelines: Marilyn H. states she has nothing new to add yet but will bring it in front of Council when it is completed.

--Church Signage: Jim P. states that Dave Newman is working with Roderick's for new signage.

--Update on outside request to use church for wedding later in the year. Pastor Keith states that the date is December 31. Pastor Keith has told the person that he is not available on that date. Sharon Gray has said she would be available. Jim F. states he would be willing to be at the church during the wedding. Pastor Keith states he has not heard back from the party requesting the usage.

--2022 Stewardship Drive: Jim P. states that the letter and pledge forms are all printed and they will be mailed out to members tomorrow.

--Tolo Estate Gift: continue to be tabled until new pastor arrives.

New Business:

--Church Constitution and By-Laws: Jim P. handed out copies of the constitution and by-laws. The changes to be made due to Synodical changes are to be incorporated. Any other changes that are made to the document have to have congregational vote to make them official.

Jim Pierce, Debbie Taylor, Marilyn Hunt, Jim Roevers have agreed to serve as the committee to look at the constitution and by-laws and begin to make the suggested revisions and updates.

Cyndee S. will look into the indemnification with church insurance agent.

--Christmas Eve Services: This year's services to be held at 5:00pm and 7:30pm. There will also be a dinner served at the church in-between services.

Other items brought up:

--Choir will be starting up again next Thursday in the sanctuary at 4:00pm.

--Jeff Langdon and Dave Newman have been meeting with Lanham's regarding sound system and microphones that are currently being used. A proposal is being drawn up to be presented.

--Office Needs: Will need to look at laptops and other technology that may be needed as Pastor Keith uses his own laptop. Office chairs also need to be moved around to provide safer seating for visitors.

--Current mask guidelines: Some members are questioning why we are still requiring masks at church. Sarah S. helped lead us in this discussion. COVID infections are currently on the rise as are hospital cases. Our goal as a church council is to keep church as safe as possible for those attending. Singing continues to be a way to spread the virus without masks as the droplets travel farther when singing. It will be announced at church for the next several weeks that we will continue to require masks during worship as we will continue to sing.

--Kris L. announced that First Lutheran has two full tables next Tuesday at the Youth Alliance banquet.

--Sound System Assistance: we are still in need of more people to assist on Sunday mornings with the sound system and the live streaming.

Kris L. made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Carol B. seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.

Next Council meeting: December 9, 2021 @ 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Bass, Secretary