

August 11, 2020 Council Reports

Visits & Communion Report- Jim Puhl

- Vibrant sing-a-long, 5 attended
- Moongate South, 6 attended
- Aspen sing-a-long, 9 attended
- House blessing, 3 attended

Treasurers' Report- Rick Taylor

1. I compared Quick Books records December 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 with First Merchants Bank Statements for the same period. The following were found with regard to expenses. (**Note: have not yet tackled deposit records. Small print is hard on older eyes.**)
 - A. Six items on Bank Statement for payroll services could not be found on QB: Five for \$147, one for \$151, one item each month January through June.
 - B. The bank lists a check number "99" for \$500 expense 1-2-20. Obviously not a proper check number, as all checks have 5-digit numbers. QB lists the expense as "funds transfer." I think it is for one of the three bonuses given out.
 - C. Portico payments of \$1218.97 on 2-25-20, 4-17-20, 5-13-20, 5-20-20, and 6-19-20 shown on Bank Statement are not shown in QB.
 - D. Check #17903 (\$50 to Thomas Yarger) is shown on Bank Statement, but not in QB.
 - E. Checks: 17921, 17934 and 17935, all in June, are not shown on bank statement – probably had not cleared by end of the month.

Per comment above regarding eyes: The above assumes I did not miss an entry in QB or Bank Statement(s).

2. Giving from August 2nd was negligible. Previous Sundays in which we have not had Drive-In Services has frequently been light.

3. I have copies of two evaluation forms I found. I do not particularly like either, and one is rather long.
4. **Not directly part of Treasurer's Report, but of IMPORTANCE:** The August issue of Living Lutheran has articles on ELCA programs and congregation and individual efforts to address climate change.

Council Minutes for July 16th Report- Molly Spitler

The meeting was held online. Present were Pastor Lew Carlson, Linda Meinhart, Ray and Lona Balduc, Rick and Linda Taylor, Ron and Bernal Koch, Thomas Yarger, Dean Yarger, Kathy Mozena and Molly Spitler.

The meeting was called to order at 6:43 P.M.

Pastor Lew led the group in devotion centered on systemic racism and how the church can fight back ending in prayer.

Bernal Koch moved to accept all reports. Second by Linda Taylor. Motion carried.

JIM PUHL

It was noted that Jim is out in the community serving the older population.

TREASURER

Rick Taylor is still looking for staff evaluation forms. He will e-mail the synod for advice. He reports we are falling behind financially but the funds from the Payroll Protection Assistance have not been transferred to the general account.

SECRETARY

Ron Koch reports that the cost for the DVD replicator may have been higher than noted in the June minutes but the motion was approved for the expense. He also suggests that council minutes be sent to everyone in the congregation from now on.

WORSHIP MUSIC AND ART

Bernal Koch reports that the church has been mapped out for reopening once the governor "OK's" Level 5. Singing will be a problem as singers must be 25 feet away from anyone else. Pastor wants a tarp for himself and Mariana to use during outdoor services. A pop up pavilion would work and is inexpensive. Linda Taylor reports the church does have masks available.

PROPERTY

Discover Our World requested a lock on the door to the Fellowship Hall on the North Side. Ray Balduf installed it. You will need to use a key to get to the Fellowship Hall - one will be in the office and another given to Social Ministry. The Water Heater was inspected. The office Security Camera is working again. Light bulbs were changed in the daycare.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Kathy Mozena reports the bank account for the pantry has an incorrect name. They did receive their money in the correct account.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Lew reports he has good feedback about the Drive-In Service(s). He and Jim have been invited back to Aspen Grove. Sarah Henes' Employee Evaluation was done online by Pastor, Rick Taylor, and Molly Spitler.

It was positive and Pastor felt he was able to open up communication between Sarah and himself. There was discussion about a raise for Sarah. Molly Spitler moved to approve a 40 cent/hour one time probationary raise for Sarah immediately. The next Employee Evaluation at her one year employee anniversary. Second by Rick Taylor. Motion carried.

Pastor has various professionals and community leaders lined up to speak during Saturday online services. The Angel Memorial Garden is available for the burial of cremains only for those who cannot afford a burial.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The donations for the Malawi Huger Project were sent. Ron and Lona met with the preschool today. Written guidelines were established. Thomas needs a new camera part and it has been ordered.

OLD BUSINESS

Ron Koch will look at pricing for high speed internet service. Thomas Yarger will help. Ron and Pastor will get together with possibly Don Wasil to make plans for Stewardship. There is no new business.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

Pastor Lew has been talking to township leaders about participation in our unveiling of the Black Lives Matter sign. The unveiling will be a community event with leaders, law enforcement, possibly our bishop, Apostle Henry, and others. It is targeted for the first week of September. Pastor has recommended two books:

- *Becoming an Anti-Racist Church*
- *White Fragility*

Lona Balduf suggested we look at the following YouTube Video:

- *Uncomfortable Conversations With a Black Man*

Pastor will incorporate anti-racist material in upcoming church services. He and a committee will visit some of the homebound seniors to discuss the church's position. An anti-racist slogan will be put on the church sign. An e-mail and/or letter will be sent to everyone in the congregation to explain the BLM activities happening.

Rick Taylor noted the *Profit and Loss Statement for June 1st - July 16th* and suggests the statement be monthly. There also was no notation of rental income; staff is still learning Quick Books.

Pastor Lew led the group in prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 P.M.

Christian Education Report- Linda Meinhart

We have the 73 pails that we plan to fill with material and hand out. We would like to have permission to hand them out when the food is handed out on the 3rd Wednesday of August and also if any are left, hand them out on the 3rd Wednesday of September. They will be filled with VBS material that had already when purchased before COVID-19 hit and canceled in-person VBS.

Property Report- Ray Balduf

- Changed the oil in the Lawn Mower.
- Mowed and trimmed the lawn.
- At the Southwest corner there is a water leak that goes into the Daycare. I cut sloped grooves into the sidewalk which slopes toward the building.
- Sprayed a sealer where the concrete meets the wall.
- Cleaned the dirt off the office Air Conditioner Condenser.
- Sprayed weeds with weed killer in the parking lot cracks.

Social Ministry Report- Kathy Mozena

July 15, 2020 distribution helped 11 families. We offered bread and cleaning supplies as well. There had been a 200 box give away the Saturday before which probably effected the turnout. Had wonderful volunteers once again.

Next distribution is August 19th 1:00-2:30.

We spent \$146 on meat, paper products and food.

We had 3 donations from Resurrection PCC with one of them with 344 items! We are very grateful!

We delivered to our 6 Ivor Lindsay residents. No one has been effected by the virus there!

President's Report- Ron Koch

Payroll Protection Loan funds are in a special bank account and are being used for payroll and utilities.

Rick Taylor & I are meeting to try to reconcile some differences between our First Merchants checking account report and our QuickBooks report. More to come. On a related note, Sarah, Leann Goodin and I have spent several hours with QuickBooks to remove Leann as Primary Administrator and give that responsibility to the Council President. It is my thought that changing Primary Administrator with QuickBooks, Intuit and maybe several other companies, should become a part of the transition when new Presidents take over the reins.

I checked with Buckeye. We currently have Business Class 100MBPS, which seems, according to their website, like it should be what we need. I have not found another carrier which can offer more.

Lona Balduf and I had our meeting with DOW II and Michelle N. on July 16 to meet, discuss and see how we can best serve as good landlords. All went well.

All of the authorized equipment for streaming and parking lot services has been received. We have yet to use the streaming equipment because making the proper connections has been much more challenging than anticipated. Parking lot technology has been working well.

Progress is being made as we move towards posting our Black Lives Matter sign. Pastor will share more. I really feel like this could be one of the most important endeavors that we take on this year!

Let's continue to work to continue to make real and documentable progress on our goals. What are your thoughts on where we are and where we should go?

It is up to us to keep things moving, work on our goals, and lead St. Paul's to be all that it can be! I repeat this note even though in this last month our world has turned upside down. However, even as we learn how to "do church" amid COVID-19, our community still has needs and the world still has needs. It is incumbent upon us to still strive to meet those needs as best we can, while working to keep ourselves, each other and our church family as safe as possible.

Old Business:

- Black Lives Matter
- Blizzardfest
- Soundproofing of Pastor's office
- Employee evaluations
- New Check signers
- Appreciation for Sandee Bowman
- Frames next appointment
- Internet service

New Business:

Goals:

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|-------------------|---|
| Overarching goal: | Be intentional; practice living our beliefs |
| Supporting goal: | Reach out to the local community, reach out to the world. |
| Supporting goal: | Practice being good stewards. |
| Supporting goal: | Try to focus our mission work to meet the needs of the Congregation and to maximize our ability to serve. |

Goals for Pastor Lew and Church Council:

1. Hold regular (quarterly minimum) Mutual Ministry meetings. We should review with the congregation the function and value of the MM committee and revisit this with the congregation frequently.
2. Set reasonable boundaries on duties of the Pastor. Having the Pastor stay away from finances seemed to be of utmost importance.
3. Pastor and Council need to work together to not overpromise and/or overextend. All need to realize that there are limits to what we can ask of each individual.
4. Council needs to endeavor to be very clear with directions/guidelines to Pastor. Pastor needs to endeavor to follow the intentions of directions/guidelines from Council, and ask questions for clarification.
5. Council needs to find a way to keep the Pastor's office locked and to make it a place of privacy, either through soundproofing, white noise or some other technique.
6. Set up a system for regular employee evaluations.