



JUNE 14, 2021 FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Present (via Zoom)

Pete Bredlau, Pat Friedell, Erik Hjelmstad, Dave Huston, Cathie John, Marcus Kochis, Jan Larson, Suzanne Miller, Ed Weaver, Pastor Travis Norton, Harry Mosco

Absent

None

Opening

The regular meeting of the First Lutheran Church Council was called to order by Vice President, Cathie John, at 6:59 pm.

Devotions (Pete Bredlau)

Pete shared a devotion from his men's group from I John chapter 4. We know God and God's love was revealed to us through Jesus. We abide in this love, and there is no record of wrongs.

Approval of Minutes

Dates corrected in minutes. Eric's corrected to Eric within Senior Pastor report.

*****COUNCIL APPROVED THE MAY 10 MEETING MINUTES*****

Finance Committee Report (Erik Hjelmstad)

- The Finance Committee met on June 14 to review the May Financial Statements. Good general finances. (1) Discrepancy of budget versus actual regarding insurance due to 10 payments as opposed to 12. (2) Discrepancy of budget versus actual regarding benefits due to double payment last month. (3) Year-to-date income down/expenses up. (4) InFaith up about \$3000. Reserve funds planned to be moved later this month. (5) Peel House with \$600,000 remaining. No draw on loan yet.

*****COUNCIL APPROVED THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT THE MAY FINANCIALS*****

- Erik presented the final bylaws for the InFaith Giving Endowment Fund. Section 7.2 was added stating active members in good standing may submit requests for funds. The bylaws were reviewed by InFaith representative, Cindy Aegerter. There was a discussion and it was agreed it was appropriate for us to approve the bylaws.

*****COUNCIL APPROVED THE INFALTH GIVING ENDOWMENT FUND**

BYLAWS***

- Erik asked Harry how the count teams were going. Harry indicated we had several new members of the count team undergoing training. The count team seems to be

operating well at this time.

Senior Pastor Report

- Worship. Attendance at 8 and 11 on Sundays is less than 100 and 9:30 greater than 100. Livestream viewership is holding steady at 300 a week. The repackaged viewing experience (a snack) focusing on the sermon attracts around 80.
- Wednesday Night Live has been retooled with a focus on young adults. Getting around 30 at the service. We can experiment with this service and retool as needed.
- The Saturday night service will stay on hold for now. The staff, pastors, and Eric need a day off with families each week. Older demographic is served well on Sunday and younger demographic on Wednesday evening.
- Sunday, June 20, will bring communion back to the rail. We will kneel on the first and third Sundays and stand on all other Sundays with individual cups used for kneeling and standing. We are almost fully back with this change. The only other thing left is passing the offering plate. The choir is off for the summer but will hopefully return in the fall.
- New young adult ministry on Wednesday after Wednesday Night Light. Six young adults ages 18-25 joined for this, and we are hoping this number grows. A new sermon series on Anxiety was launched with this group in mind. Invitations occurred in the Gazette, on Facebook, and on Instagram.
- Vacation. Pastor Travis took a vacation June 10-13 and will take another June 28-July 5. Many of the staff are also taking vacations as some did not take any time off last year.
- Patio for coffee hour. Pastor talked about the possibility of using some of the Employee Retention Credit funds for redoing landscaping in the front area of the church lawn near the sanctuary. This would encourage people to stay longer for fellowship. Would be good for Wednesday Night Light and other outdoor experiences. The plan is to get prices and talk with landscape architect.
- Sanctuary remodel. Dave Weesner met with the pastors, Eric Wicks, Marcus Kochis, and Mark Mahler. Discussed hopes and dreams, and Dave has drawings. The goal is to have something to present to the congregation including budget number for the October ministry gatherings.

Old Business

- Peel House update. Nunn has other jobs and is getting ready to move on from Peel House project. After July 18 completion, there will be finalization of furniture, dishes, and decorating. August will bring grand opening celebrations including congregation, main parties, and then tours including Old North End. The elevator arrived and was installed. The transformer has been moved. There was a little cabinet issue. The fireplaces are on hold for the time being. Looking forward to seeing the design for the cross and also a timeline plaque. Will take a look at landscaping repair after construction traffic. The parking lot will be resurfaced and

restriped and cost will be covered under deferred maintenance.

- Sanctuary remodel covered under senior pastor report.

New Business

No new business

Reminders

- Upon reminder of July meeting, Ed mentioned that council has been known to take a summer month off. Council decided to take July off and convene again on August 9.
- Pastor Travis mentioned August agenda items of new council members and budget.

Adjournment with prayer by Pastor Travis at 7:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Friedell
Secretary