

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting April 10, 2022 Draft

The meeting was called to order by President Ari at 12:01 PM.

Council members present were Jennifer, Jan, Laura, Marcia, Gretchen, Kevin, Cindy and Joy. Also present was Pastor Paul.

Devotion was led by Pastor Paul with a prayer for guidance while searching for a new pastor.

Approval of agenda: Gretchen motioned, Marcia second, motion carried.

Approval of March 20 Minutes: Gretchen motioned, Jan second, motion carried.

Staff Report: We have had 2 baptisms and 1 coming up Easter Sunday.

Parish Report: Area Parish met this past week. The MSP's of each church were reviewed and approved. Also, a compensation package was created for the upcoming Pastor.

Memorial Sunday, May 29th, summer services at First Lutheran will begin at 11:00 AM. Coffee hour will be held before the service.

WELCA: Joy reported that the quilts are done for the seniors and the Ukraine. Those going to the Ukraine will be delivered to Dickinson in May. Also, the quilters are working on baptism quilts.

Committee Reports

Executive: Ari stated that Pastor Paul is a member of the executive committee as well as Ari, Laura and Cindy.

Finance: Gretchen reported that since Renee Johnson is busy with tax season, a written report will be emailed to us at a later date. Gretchen did say that there were no issues. We do have \$371,173.82 in checking which includes Bell Tower funding. Also, the church's annual insurance was paid which amounted to \$11,746.00. Council will approve the Finance Report for April at the May 15th meeting.

Property: The committee has toured 9 homes, looking for a alternative to the present Parsonage. Many are new, expensive and unfinished. Also, the quality lacks in the newer homes. Steve Sanford would like a second estimate for the work on the Parsonage. The Bell Tower project is proposed to be complete by June 30th. The Watford City High School is doing their clean-up workday on April 29. They will come to the church to help under the supervision of Glen, Kevin and David. A design estimate was received on upgrading our AV systems. Once complete, it will integrate all necessary rooms, the basement and conference room. Zoom meetings can be held in the conference room which will be beneficial for the Call Committee to interview Pastoral candidates. Pastor will have a more detailed estimate by the next property meeting. The next meeting is May 4th at 11:30 AM.

Worship: Lenten, Palm Sunday and Easter services have been finalized. April 24th will be First Communion at FLC. May 1 will be Quilt Recognition which will sent to the Ukraine on May 14th. May 8 is Confirmation. May 15th is our first "Table Party" at 4:30. This is being organized by Kathleen Beard, Anna Schwartz and Erin Fjeldahl along with the Stewardship and Evangelism committee.

Stewardship and Evangelism: Care packages for the Ukraine are in boxes ready for shipment. We would like to start the Operation Christmas Child program in August or September.

Youth and Education: UMM has announced it will not have staff for our Vacation Bible School. There is an option of the youth to go to the camp for 2 days instead. If we could get more volunteers, it would be possible to hold it here in Watford. Laura and Joy will keep us updated.

Old Business

Family Ministry Coordinator: Gretchen communicated with one of the Pre School applicants. She may be interested in this position and possible the part time office assistant until the preschool is up and running. Gretchen will get her resume and email to all council members. Once that is received, Pastor Paul and Gretchen will meet with her to see what her qualifications and abilities are.

Part time Office Assistant: see above

Tithely: Ari would like to get this into place. It will be useful for seeing meeting dates, agenda and minutes to meetings. Jennifer will work with Jeremiah on getting it to do all of these tasks.

Parsonage renovation or sale: Laura and Kevin updated us on the homes they had viewed. We also have the option of buying a home and repairing the current Parsonage, keeping or selling in the future. Jennifer motioned we give an offer to the one home we have considered from the beginning of \$375,000 cash contingent on inspection and title and also keep the Parsonage. Jan second the motion. Gretchen stated that the Rothe will pay 25% for a capital project. The rest can come from the Iverson Fund. Motion carried. Laura will contact the owner with our offer.

Radio Broadcast: Pastor found there was no contract with the radio station and has canceled our Sunday Service. If anyone wants to sponsor a Sunday, the dollars can go towards our Facebook Service.

New Business

Comment Card: A comment card suggested a hamburger meal for men's night, for fellowship and perhaps Bible Study or property meetings. We may consider this in the future.

Approval of First Lutheran MSP: After review, Jan motion to approve, Kevin second, motion carried.

Approval of Area Parish compensation package for Call Committee to use: This includes \$11,000 for SS tax offset; \$90,000 defined compensation; Pension \$10,800; Medical will be a Gold plan; vacation of 4 weeks per year; parental leave is 6 weeks per year; sabbatical policy is negotiable; back ground check is required; travel at IRS rate; professional expenses as submitted; continuing education is negotiable. There is also a \$10,000 retention bonus after the first year.

The next meeting will be May 15th after service.

Jan motioned to adjourn, Jennifer second. Motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Cindy Geiger, Secretary