

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting June 15, 2022 Draft

The meeting was called to order by President Ari at 5:22 PM,

Council members present were Laura, Cindy, Kevin, Gretchen, Jennifer, Joy and Ari. Others present were Ardyce and Pastor Paul.

Ari welcomed all that were present.

Pastor Paul gave us a brief lesson on Moses and his leadership. From Exodus 18:17 and 24. We ended with a prayer for more guidance for our Council.

Laura wanted to add Call Committee Update, Iverson Fund and PreSchool Update to the agenda. With these additions, Jennifer motioned to approve, Laura second, motion carried.

Approval of the May 15 minutes. Laura asked to edit the phrase containing the word "bid" from the parsonage old business. It should read: The renovation project for the old parsonage is on hold. Gretchen motioned to approve the minutes with the correct verbage. Kevin second, motion carried.

Staff Report: Worship this coming Sunday will be at the fairgrounds near the livestock auction area. Cindy and Jennifer on behalf of Stewardship and Evangelism are providing a brunch of scrambled eggs and ham, sauteed onions and green peppers, muffins, coffee and orange juice. Ari and Rex will provide the music. There will also be a baptism.

Prayers for individual, at the beginning of the church service, will be their first name only since all will be mentioned on the video and bulletin.

Ardyce is working on our website. She has been in contact with tech assistants to make it public and make improvements. She may also create an introductory video. Our Facebook page has also been a struggle to get the whole service.

Past Pastor Rob Favorite has been installed as the SAM chaplain for the McKenzie County Healthcare System. He will be able to provide communion, weddings and funerals at the Medical Chapel only since there are certain rules that pertain to a newly installed SAM. We are excited for him to resume his passion and has already performed a wedding!

Garrett Gudmunson will provide pastoral support while Pastor Paul is on vacation.

Area Parish: Concern has been made that the website is not Parish wide and seems to be channeled to First Lutheran. The main issue is whether the Parish should incorporate or have First as the main church and the country churches contract Pastoral and Secretarial services. Each of the three churches have been recommended to update their parochial records and note how many giving members each has. This information will be used to determine the financial obligations of the three congregations according to the parish agreement.

Vacation Bible School is next week at Garden. Sunday the 26th service will be held at Garden Church with the VBS children leading the worship.

WELCA: 82 quilts were shipped in May to the Ukraine. Kitchen supplies have been replenished. The Table Party was a great success. WELCA will provide the evening meal for the VBS children. The next meeting will be August 3rd.

Executive: no report

Finance: Ardyce created a report that showed church attendance and FB viewers. Facebook viewer continue to rise. Our net income looked higher than normal due to the deposit of funds for the Bell Tower Repair. Although no start date has been established, they claim to be complete with the project by June 30th. Gretchen noted that we have \$390,000 available in the Ruth Iverson Fund for the purchase of the new parsonage. In the Ruth Iverson Investment Fund there is \$500,000. She is not sure how available those funds are and if there is a penalty for withdrawals. The Rothe Fund will provide 20% of a capital investment if it is for educational purposes. Gretchen will contact Kelly Peterson on the correct procedure for conducting the purchase of the new parsonage. Cindy motioned to approve the financial report, Joy second, motion carried.

Property: In a written report, Glen stated that the steel for the bell tower is currently being galvanized. Glen will contact the previous owners of the new parsonage and go over the mechanical workings. Once the sale is complete, we will need to get the home insured and utilities changed to First Lutheran. Jennifer mentioned she would like us to view the two parsonages. With that, the next property meeting will be held at the new one. This will be held on July 6th at 11:30 AM. There are some small updates in the basement being done for the upcoming preschool. We have an official quote from Tricorne on the AV system.

Worship: Pastor Paul will be on vacation June 26th to July 10th. He recommends developing an inhouse person to assist with leading worship during Pastoral absences. July 3rd will be a joint worship at First at 11:00. We may play the video that Bishop Craig has provided. July 10th will be Pastor Hillsland. Discussion was held on having joint worships during the summer months when attendance is down. The next meeting is August 2 at 10:00 AM. Gretchen mentioned that a possible substitute would be Brad Dokken's spouse. Joy mentioned that there has been concern of who is to open the church for those in charge of coffee hour since Caroline and Pastor are not always at the church by 10. Property will come up with a plan for the summer months.

Stewardship and Evangelism: The Table Party was a huge success and are able to send UMM a donation of around \$1500.00. We had 78 women attend and 6 men that served and cleaned up. Operation Kid Christmas will begin Oct. 1. We had a small turnout of only 4 council members show up for the Pick up the Patch. Next year we would like to see some youth attend as well. Cindy would like to pass out Patriotic cups filled with candy and poppers on the July 3rd service. The next meeting will August 2nd at Teddy's Lounge at 5:00 PM.

Youth and Education: VBS is scheduled June 21 and 22 at Garden with a fun Farm theme. June 26th the youth will lead worship and have a skit. Sunday School was discussed. The teachers need to go through the materials and determine what needs to be ordered. Rally Sunday is September 11th. Sunday School starts September 18th. July 18th is a special meeting to plan confirmation and will be inviting the families to attend for their input. Pastor encouraged having the parents attend and become as active as possible.

Old Business:

Call Committee: Joy reported we received an email that our profile is approved for 1 year. The committee had a mock interview with a Pastor from Williston. After having the interview, the committee has fine tuned their questions. It was a good learning experience for all.

Purchase of the new Parsonage: \$387,454.97 will be due tomorrow to the buyer of the new parsonage. This will be dispersed from the Iverson Fund to the Title company ND Guarantee and Title. Rothe Fund will give us \$77,000.00 towards this purchase. Jennifer motioned to disperse the funds, Kevin second, motion carried.

Tithely: Ari mentioned that it may be possible to put a link on our Facebook events so viewers can give during the service. Jennifer has been working hard to get the app to work for everything we need it to do and found it was not set up properly in our domain. We need a C Name so she has contacted Jeremiah Beard for assistance.

Area Parish: Much discussion was held as to whether incorporate or for First Lutheran to be the employer of the Pastor and secretary or contract our services to the two country churches. Cindy requested input from the congregation. Ari will solicit the congregation for their input. Gretchen motioned we table this until our July meeting. Joy second, motion carried.

Church Audit: Vicky Karpyak has declined the task of the audit as it is more time consuming that she had presumed.

Preschool: According to Gretchen, with the size of our facility, we are only allowed 9 preschool children. We have not cashed out the CD to help fund the start of our preschool yet. At this time, we are unsure if we will be starting our preschool this fall as our Preschool teacher seems to have medical issues and is taking lots of days off.

New Business:

Comment cards: no comments this month

Preschool Budget and pricing: see old business

AV System: We are waiting on the electrical bid. Some of the upgrade can be funded by the Roth Funds. Our quote for the new system is \$79,935.00.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 27th at 5:15 PM.

Jennifer motioned to adjourn, Cindy second. Motion carried.

We ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Cindy Geiger, Secretary