

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 19, 2018

Council Mission Statement: "We exist, with God's help, to provide leadership for the Salem Lutheran Church congregation".

The regular meeting of the Salem Lutheran Church Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on December 19, 2018.

Present: Pastor Mike, Ken Stebbins, Terry Tichenor, Mark Carlson, Meriellen Pisarek, Di Hein, Jake Frahm, Joel Huntley and Jeff Mitchell. Absent: John Wojciak.

Opening Prayer was led by Pastor Mike.

Congregational Input: None

Election of Council Officers:

2019 Council Officers are: Vice President: Mark Carlson
Treasurer: Terry Tichenor
Secretary: Meriellen Pisarek

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes from the Council meeting on November 15, 2018 was seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report for October and November, 2018:

- Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was seconded. Motion carried.
- Ample discussion was held regarding Whitney's suggestion to move money from line item 7420 to dedicated funds line item 2301 for future expenses of the children's education. Motion to move \$1,000.00 from 7420 to dedicated funds line 2301 was seconded. Motion carried.
- Council discussed moving additional funds into the benevolence fund. Motion to move \$5,000.00 from the net income into the 2018 benevolence prior to January 1, 2019 was seconded. Motion carried.
- Discussion was held regarding line item 4005 Envelope Offering- Restricted and where those funds should be distributed. In years past, ½ the funds went to Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry and ½ to the ELCA missionary support. Motion to move the 4005 Envelope Offering-Restricted benevolence ½ to Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry and ½ to the ELCA missionary support was seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- **Praise & Worship:**
 - Easter Service: Brad Shermock, a professional trumpet player will be playing on Easter morning. We will pay him \$600.00, of which the Memorial Committee will contribute \$300.00 towards. They are working at obtaining the balance of funds from donations from the congregation.
 - Organ Speakers: They are working on the organ speakers and have decided that the speakers can be hung behind the sacristy wall.
- **Columbarium:**
 - They are discussing replacing the benches this year.
- **Outreach:**
 - Put \$190,121.16 in the Brainerd Community Foundation combining the proceeds from the sale of the gift house, the parking lot sale, extra from the fire fund and extra in the Mustard Seed building fund. \$500,000.00 deposited into the Initiative Foundation from the sale of the gift house.
 - Wrote a grant to Hallet for \$10,000.00 and received the grant.
 - Officers for the Outreach for 2019 are: Noreen is Chair
Joyce is Co-Chair
Bev is Treasurer
Sandy is Secretary
 - December is a busy time for Outreach with all the Christmas Parties, with Teen Challenge, Jail Ministry, Christmas Tree Angels, Poinsettias to the shut-ins.
 - 11 people are going to Honduras.
- **Faith Formation:**
 - Make & Take: 27 kids total attended. Most of the 27 kids that attended were totally new kids which was really exciting. Thanks to all the volunteers!
 - Kid's Club: The kids are often begging for Legos, so Whitney is planning a Lego club style lesson

- which will have the kids build the different parts of the Christmas Story which they can read all together at the end. The winter session of Kids Club will start in February.
- Sunday School: Will be doing some long-term planning in January. Getting teachers lined up and lessons in their hands.
 - Prayer Buddies: Up and running and working to plan the event this winter/spring.
 - Whitney plans to be done in her position no later than the end of March. She will stay involved with Kids Club until the end of the school year.

▪ **Technology:**

- Technology met with Deerwood Technologies for the yearly meeting. We will need to be updating all computers to Windows 10 by January, 2020.
- Debbi Carlson will be the staff member on the Technology Committee for 2019, replacing Sandy Beyer.

▪ Appointment of Council Member Committee Liaisons:

Columbarium:	Ken
Faith Formation:	John/Di
Worship & Music:	Mark
Welcome:	Jeff
Outreach:	Terry
Facilities:	Joel
Technology:	Meriellen
Finance:	Di
Memorial:	Jake

Unfinished Business:

- Discussion was held regarding the request of the insurance agent as to whether we wanted to keep the \$5,000.00 medical coverage clause included at no extra charge in Salem's liability insurance. Council decided to keep the medical coverage clause.
- Chanda DeVilliers has accepted the position of Financial Manager.

New Business:

- Pastor Mike's salary designation: Motion that the annual amount of \$80,674.00 payable to Pastor Michael Briggs in 2019 (includes salary, congregations portion of social security and housing allowance), \$40,000.00 to be designated as "Housing Allowance" with the remainder to be defined as "Cash Salary" as defined by the tax code was seconded. Motion carried.
- Discussion was held regarding the new Outreach account signors. Should be 3 of the following: Outreach chairperson, Outreach treasurer, and Council Treasurer or President. Should not be a staff member. It was agreed that Joyce (Outreach co-chair), Bev (Outreach Treasurer) and Terry Tichenor (Council Treasurer) would be the 3 signors (Noreen is a staff member).
- Discussion was held regarding the new Treasurer, Terry Tichenor, to become signatory on the following Community Foundation funds: American Funds was turned over to church to use; MIF Building Fund and Deposit Box.
- Ample discussion was held regarding the security of the building on Fridays when the Office Manager is not working. Motion that the building is locked on Fridays when the office manager is gone. A sign is to be posted on the door with office hours and phone number of church was seconded. Motion carried.

Suggestions, Observations, and Solutions: 1 received and discussed.

Announcements:

Next council meeting - January 17, 2019
 Teen Challenge - January 20, 2019
 Be thinking about Council retreat dates.

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Meriellen Pisarek, Secretary