

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 17, 2019

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 5:55 p.m. on January 17, 2019.

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

Opening Prayer was led by Pastor Mike.

Congregational Input: None.

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion to approve the minutes from the Council meeting on December 19, 2018 was seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

- Council reviewed the Treasurer's Report for December, 2018. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was seconded. Motion carried.
- Capital Appeal committee meets next on Monday, January 21, 2018.
- Discussion was held regarding moving line items 2610 Deacon Continuing Ed 2nd Year and 2615 Deacon Continuing Ed Prev Year to a new line item called 2605 Support Staff Continuing Ed. to provide funds for staff to obtain continuing education. Motion to remove line items 2610 and 2615 and make a new one called 2605 for support staff continuing ed. was seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

- It has been a month of staff transitions as well as holiday celebrations. Chanda DeVilliers started work as Salem's financial manager on December 19th and will soon be done training with Sandy Beyer. She's doing very well, and even says she's enjoying the work! Both Whitney Cragun and Debbi Carlson have submitted their resignations effective in March. The Faith Formation and Executive Teams have been busy re-writing job descriptions, and will post the job openings very soon. Glen Helm injured his shoulder shoveling snow after the Christmas week storm and will be out rehabbing for at least another week. Each change and the preparations made for a new employee makes me realize how well we've been served these last years. Be sure to thank them and wish them well in the future. They will be missed!

Faith Formation Coordinator's Report:

- Kid's Club starts back up on January 30th. 20 plus kids have registered for this half of the school year! We need volunteers to help.

- Sunday School. The numbers have been low over the past 3 weeks. I believe starting a new curriculum will help boost interest and enthusiasm.
- Lenten Meals: We would like to have confirmation kids be involved in the Wednesday meals again.
- Camp Sunday: Working on a date and the possibility of a VLM staff member here this year to speak.
- VBS/VLM Day Camp: Faith Formation Team is discussing a Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry Day Camp team to come host a week-long camp this summer.

Committee Reports:

- Facilities:
 - Facilities team is filling in for Glen while he is out with disability.
 - Working on getting an estimate for surface repair, sealing, coating and striping of the parking lot.
 - Dumpster fence has not yet been repaired. Facilities is checking on the status of the repair.
 - Spring cleaning will be Saturday, May 4th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Unfinished Business:

- Discussion was held regarding the American Funds. The donor has given these funds for church use. Council discussed ideas for its use. This item was tabled until a Council member can discuss with the donor Council's suggested use of the funds.
- Possible ideas for the Council retreat were discussed. Pastor Mike will look into Camp Hiawatha or the possibility of someone coming from the Synod for a planning and visioning day.
- Revised Guidelines Between the Council and Social Outreach Governing Board were distributed. Council will take some time to review these changes and will discuss at the next Council meeting.
- Still looking into the security system for the church.

New Business:

- Designation of Lenten offering. After ample discussion....Motion to give Lenten offering 50% to the Midwives for Haiti through Lisa Slepica and 50% to Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry was seconded. Motion carried.
- Job Postings:
 - Office Manager: Suggested changes to the Office Manager job description were reviewed. This position will be posted as a 32 hour a week position.
 - Faith Formation Coordinator: Council received suggested changes to the job description from the Faith Formation Committee. This position will be posted.
- Silent Auction/Summerfest taskforce: Don Hales suggested the possibility of creating a taskforce team to handle the silent auction at Summerfest this year. This item was tabled pending discussion with those involved in the silent auction last year.
- Employment Policy needs to be reviewed and updated. A couple of the Council members have agreed to take on this project.

- Discussion was held regarding whether emails to all members of the church should be sent through the church office. One of the items of concern were confidentiality of Church member's email addresses. Council agreed that they should be sent from the church office.
- There was discussed a concern that some of our accounts at the Bank may exceed the amount that FDIC insures (\$250,000.00 per account). It was suggested that we should discuss this matter with Deerwood Bank and find out if they have some mechanism by which the Bank notifies us when we are getting close to that amount in any of our accounts. It was agreed that the Council Treasurer should discuss this matter with the Bank.

Suggestions, Observations, and Solutions: None

Announcements: Next council meeting – February 21, 2019

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Meriellen Pisarek, Secretary