

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 16, 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 5:50 p.m. on May 16, 2019.

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

Opening Prayer was led by Pastor Mike.

Congregational Input: None.

Erik Christensen from Christensen Insurance was present to talk to the Council regarding the current insurance for Outreach and Salem Lutheran Church.

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion to approve the minutes from the Council meeting on April 25, 2019, was seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

- Council reviewed the Treasurer's Report for April, 2019. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

- Karla Peterson, Chuck Lubowitz, Jerry & Shirley Huxford and I attended the NE-MN Synod Assembly, May 3-5 in Duluth. It was an excellent weekend of hearing reports, learning about ministries we do together, study, and debate. Chuck & Karla will present a report soon, but a couple highlights: Dee Dee Frahm presented a workshop on Salem's outreach work as a part of a 3 year ELCA World Hunger grant they received – one of 2 ministries in our synod to receive such a grant. Worship and the music was phenomenal, featuring "Glocal," a group of vocalist/musicians from all over the United States performing music from Christian communities all over the world. A new bishop will be elected at the 2020 assembly, May 1-3 in Duluth. Nominations can be made at our Conference Assembly on February 9th, 2020.
- 9th grade confirmation students completed their Statements of Faith and final interviews on April 24th. Confirmation ended on May 1st with a pot luck supper and games in the fellowship hall followed by kickball in the Auditorium. Thanks to all the parents, siblings, guides, students and mentors who made it a fun day and a great year.

Committee Reports:

- Memorial: Sponsoring 5 campers this year.

- Worship and Music: Discussion was held regarding having a round robin with other Pastors from Aitkin churches on the 4th Sunday of June, July and August. Would like the Council's input on this. Worship and Music would like to do a better comparative of having 1 or 2 services.
- Columbarium: Meeting next Tuesday to purchase and plant the Columbarium area. The material for around the bench has been chosen.
- Outreach: The rummage sale brought in \$1,635.00. Outreach is being more selective with what they are taking in. The contractor for the Mustard Seed addition is requiring ½ down before he starts.
- Facilities: Clean-up is done. Repair work is in progress: Gary Guida is putting new block in the entry way; entry ways are being painted; and concrete is being patched.
- Finance: No report. But it was noted that the procedural audit is Monday.

Unfinished Business:

- Employment Policy/Pet Policy: Motion to put this topic on next month's agenda after talking with insurance agent was seconded. Motion carried.
- Security team: The team met and looked at Salem West's system. It is a Lorex system. The team feels the Lorex system would suit the churches needs and has talked with Best Buy about installing the system and the costs. Best Buy has recommended a wireless system. Security Team plans to discuss the wireless option with Greg Reed of the Technology Committee.
- Faith Formation Coordinator: Mark has been doing some research in this area. This will be brought up next month when Mark returns.

New Business:

- Parking Lot repair funds/new contract: The parking lot repair has begun and is being worked on by Anderson Brothers. Council discussed that the 5 year lease with Deerwood Bank for their 10 parking spots, snow removal and contribution to striping is up in October of 2019.
- Round Robin Summer Creation Series: Discussion was held and Council approves of the round robin summer creation series which will take place on the 4th Sunday of June, July and August. Aitkin churches that would participate are First Lutheran Church of Aitkin, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Bethesda (Rossburg)/St. Johns (Cedar Brook) and Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo.
- Discussion was held that the Office Manager Tammy Martin's probation period is over. Council felt she is doing a good job and getting more proficient at her tasks.

Suggestions, Observations, and Solutions: None

Announcements: Outreach received the ELCA World Hunger grant.

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Meriellen Pisarek, Secretary