

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF AUGUST 22, 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 6:00 p.m. on August 22, 2019.

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

Opening Prayer was led by Mark Carlson.

Congregational Input: Ernie Erickson discussed with Council where the facilities team is on the research for the sign and how they plan to incorporate the new sign with Salem's original granite sign.

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion to approve the minutes from the Council meeting on July 18, 2019, was seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

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

Pastor's Report (via report as Pastor was on vacation):

- Confirmation will reconvene in Sept/Oct. The class looks to be less than 5 students this year, so I am considering not renewing our FINK subscription. I hope to engage students in bible camp and synod events and service projects as well as class time.
- Two new member households joined Salem this month: Megan Felthous & Bryan Srystad, both teachers at C-I, and Sandi Tietz. Both households have been paired with a "Welcomer" to help get them integrated into the life of the congregation. We hope to have a couple other households next month followed by a public recognition during worship in September.
- Scott Ruffing retired as choir director effective August 18th, but not before he found his replacement! Kennedy Niska has accepted the position starting in September. Thank you Scott for your excellent work at Salem, and welcome Kennedy!

Committee Reports:

- Welcome: Updating and improving the welcome bags and adding a letter welcoming them to Salem. They are doing research and putting together a list of people who have recently moved into the area so that they can send a welcome letter.
- Faith Formation: Planning is going well for Kids' Club and Sunday School. They are planning events for Kids' Club from October 9th to the end of the year (eight Wednesdays). A couple council members have been discussing with other local churches about working together on Kids Club, monthly meal and shared ministry. They will continue to share with Council as more discussion occurs.
- Facilities: Ernie covered the sign update. Interviewed candidates for Glen's job during his absence. Deerwood Bank will pay for their ½ of the striping in the church parking lot.
- Columbarium: The bench in the Columbarium is now complete and it looks great! Plants are doing well.
- Technology: Due to the fact that Windows 7 will no longer be supported after January 14, 2020, Greg Reed will be updating the Windows 7 computers which have a key to Windows 10. Technology will review the other computers which still have Windows 7 and determine if those computers are being used and need to be replaced or if they should be upgraded to Windows 10. Council discussed the laptop in the sound booth being

one of the computers which will need to have a new computer purchased to bring it to Windows 10. Budget provides for one computer yearly to be bought, so discussion was held about purchasing a computer before the end of the year for the sound booth.

Unfinished Business:

- Discussion was held regarding the loss Becky Klingelhoffer sustained last year in salary when Salem went to one service. Motion was made to clarify Becky's employment agreement to say she will be paid per Sunday instead of per service was seconded. Motion carried.
- A lengthy discussion was held regarding the fall worship schedule. Council decided to stay at two services through September and October and then will re-evaluate in October.
- Faith Formation coordinator – funding for budget. Discussion was held regarding the budget and how to fund it for the faith formation coordinator position. Council members working on the budget will bring this information to the budget committee.
- Security team: Pastor Mike, Ken Stebbins and Ernie Erickson met with Midwest Security and walked through the church and discussed security for the church. Midwest Security will provide a proposal to the security team with their suggestions and costs.
- Flag Information: Ample discussion was held regarding the location of the flag in the sanctuary. Council decided to continue with the policy that is in place for the flag location.

New Business:

- Salem West has requested that Erica Poepke be hired on a full-time basis as Salem West Inventory Coordinator. Discussion was held. Motion that Outreach may hire Erica Poepke as Salem West Inventory Coordinator was seconded. Motion carried.
- Motion to approve Kennedy Niska as new choir director was seconded. Motion carried.
- Council discussed and reviewed the bids submitted by the Facilities Team for Glen Helm's replacement while Glen is out on medical leave. Motion to hire Mark and Debbi Carlson per their proposal from September, 2019 to February 29, 2020 for custodial services to cover Glen Helm's medical leave was seconded. Motion carried.
- ELCA Churchwide Assembly was held August 5th-10th. Jeff Mitchell brought up that there were items that were voted on and passed that he feels we need to be updated on to the extent it affects our church or our constitution. This will be added to next month's agenda.

Suggestions, Observations, and Solutions: None

Announcements: Next council meeting – September 26, 2019
Lutheran Lounge Act – August 24, 2019

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Meriellen Pisarek, Secretary