

Salem Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes from April 22, 2021

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

MSC = The motion was seconded and carried.

Present: Pastor Mike Briggs, Jeff Mitchell, Jena Reed, Terry Tichenor, Al Schiffler, Paul Tesdahl, Tracy Perpich, Mark Carlson

Absent: Renee Voller, Peggy Blistain

Call to Order

Opening Prayer by Pastor Mike

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Approve minutes of the March, 2021 Council meeting. MSC.

Motion: Approve minutes of the April 11, 2021 Congregational Meeting. MSC

Treasurer's Report

- Discussion of passing the offering plate during the service to increase the loose offering. It was decided that we can have someone walk the non-seating rows with the offering plate.
- Treasurer Terry Tichenor reviewed financial reports with the Council.

Motion: Approve the March, 2021 Financial Reports. MSC.

Pastor's Report

- Pastor Mike reviewed the past month's ministry highlights. There are 10 graduating seniors this year.
- Pastor led study on *The Post-Quarantine Church*, chapter three.
- Discussion on adding a prayer@salemdwd.org email address for people to send in prayer requests. This would allow those on Facebook to know where to send them.

Action: Jena will get with Meriellen to get this set up.

Action: All read chapter four of *The Post-Quarantine Church*

Committee Reports

- OGB: Pleased with the grants they have gotten.
- Building and Grounds: Clean-up day on 1 May. Discussion of how to pay for the LED replacement for the parking lot lights.

Motion: To accept the Facilities Team recommendation of using \$3,000 from line 2205 in Dedicated accounts and shift to line 7205 to expressly replace the sodium vapor lights with LEDs. MSC

- Faith Formation: VBS will be held July 19 – 23, 2021.

Unfinished Business

- Capital Appeal: If we refinance the mortgage to 3.625% and continue to pay \$15,408 we will save money on the loan. Recommendation: Continue with MIF and send a letter to Deerwood Bank thanking them for their refinancing offer.

Motion: Accept proposal from Mission Investment Fund, refinancing from 3.875% to 3.625% effective June 1, 2021 – next due date of the rate will be May of 2026. MSC

Action: Paul will draft a letter to Deerwood bank.

- Call Committee: MSP's have been submitted and approved by the Synod. At this point, there has not been any feedback.

Action: Chuck Lubowitz will draft information for the congregation. Jeff will talk with Chuck.

- Time and Talent form: Looked at the final version of the form.

Motion: Approve the finalized Offering Our Time and Talents form. MSC

- Bell Tower: Lee Midthun said he can run all the wiring overhead with no digging. Mr. Crook sent a wiring diagram. Thai said if it was not complicated, he would donate his time for concrete work. Some items to work out, but Teddy Skattum is sending the down payment.
- Church schedule: Discussion of a full sanctuary with every other row occupied. Do we need to have another service? It was decided to have additional chairs set up for the overflow before adding another service. Discussion that several people have asked for treats during coffee time. It was decided to have treats! On May 2nd, Capital Appeal will have cupcakes to thank everyone for their contributions to Salem's Mortgage fund.
- Summerfest: Al Schiffler and Steve Pauley have stepped up to head Summerfest. Since we have to apply for a food permit now to have it in time, we will apply to ensure that if we are able to have food, we will be ready.

New Business

- The Synod is offering grants (\$1500 to \$2500 awarded next month) to get people coming back to church. Raye Cragun offered to do daycare. However, after the church was built the state inspected it and said the church didn't meet code for it. It was suggested that maybe a date night once a month so parents could drop off kids and go on a date!
- Transfer of funds: Hold off for now. Relook at this again in July or so.

Items tabled for future discussions

- Strategic Planning Offsite
- Constitution

S.O.S.

- None.

Announcements

- In May, Capital Appeal will begin looking at 1 year or 3 year Capital Appeal. Hope to have recommendation around July.
- The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on May 27, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall.

Meeting Adjourned

- Prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Prepared by: Jena Reed