

**Salem Lutheran Church**  
**Council Meeting Minutes from November 16, 2022**

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:** Al Schiffler, Paul Tesdahl, Warren Balfany, Don Hales, Mark Boike, Pastor Amanda, Jason Kempthorne, Jena Reed, Peter MacKay, Terry Tichenor

**Absent:** Renee Voller

**Call to Order**

**Opening Prayer by Pastor Amanda**

**Salem's Insurance Sub-Committee Findings Report and Recommendations**

- Recommend Church Mutual
  - Has higher coverages
  - Has lower cost
  - Has lower deductible
  - Has Blanket coverage

**Motion:** Agree with the sub-committee findings and sign with Church Mutual for our Insurance needs for the Church and Outreach. **MSC.**

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** Approve minutes of the October 27, 2022 Council meeting. **MSC.**

**Treasurer's Report**

- Terry Tichenor presented basics of the treasurer's report.
- The Brainerd Community Foundation and the Outreach Investment Fund are down due to the market.
- Outreach and the Mustard Seed doing well.

**Motion:** Approve the October 2022 Financial Reports. **MSC.**

**Pastor Amanda's Report**

- Trunks for Treats had 290 kids and gave away 244 hot dogs!!
- Salem has been a great place of hospitality this past month!! Served over 150 in our community at the Thanksgiving Dinner!
- There is a part-time Chaplain at Heartwood now who is organizing worship with area church pastors – Salem has 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays.
- Funeral Saturday for Arlys Wanstrom.

## Outreach Report - Jason

- Completed the Continuous Improvement Program.
- They are going to do a Fishbone Analysis – Analyze all moving parts – from workflow to volunteer time.
- Received a grant from Hallett for \$20K for store move & fixtures.
- First day of Taste of Christmas was down a little from last year, but it snowed today!
- Volunteers are great and work great together!

## Committee Reports

- Columbarium: No update.
- Technology: New computer in the workroom with general Salem account, facilities account, and Exec Team account. New speakerphone for Zoom meetings!
- Capital Appeal: No update.
- Facilities/Kitchen: No update.
- Faith Formation/Youth: Pastor Amanda noted that they pulling together the Christmas Program. They are staying with the same curriculum that we have been using.
- Memorial: Peter noted that they financed a person to go to Cragun's for the Confirmation Retreat.
- Stewardship: No update.
- Welcome: Don noted that they are going to quarterly meetings. Also, they would like more people to serve on the Welcome Team!
- Worship & Music: Pastor Amanda noted that the Thanksgiving service will be on line this year. We will use the Holden Evening Prayer one Sunday. The Cantata doesn't have many people.

## Unfinished Business

- Reducing the cost of mattress disposal: Don noted that the County Commissioner put \$5K in for non-profits to utilize. We are approved for \$1K, but if the remainder isn't utilized by other non-profits, we can go back and ask for more at the end of the year. Don will continue to monitor.
- Contract pastor update: The next step is for a small number of people to put together a job description (not a Call Process!!).
- Sustainability Plan for Salem West and Mustard Seed updates: Met with a contractor regarding taking down the drop ceiling and putting it up again (so that the roof can be fixed).

**Motion:** Enter an Exec Session. **MSC.** Session was entered at 8:10pm. Sustainability was discussed.

**Motion:** Exit the Exec Session. **MSC.** Session was exited at 8:14pm.

- Filling the Financial Manager position: Researching with other congregations on how they do their finances. Looking at possible Agencies that we could contract with if we don't fill the position. Ruth's last day is 15 December.

- Final Summerfest financial report: There was no specificity to the funds in the Summerfest Donation Box.

**Motion:** The money from the Donation box will be used to fund the Volunteer Dinner. Remainder will be split between the Church and Outreach. **MSC.**

- Nominating Committee progress: We are set with candidates for all positions. Collecting Bios.

### **New Business**

- December Services:
  - Cantata – December 10<sup>th</sup> in the evening and December 11<sup>th</sup> during the service. The Cantata still needs men!
  - Christmas Eve Services – 3:00pm and 5:00pm Christmas – 9:00am service – wear your Christmas PJ's (if appropriate!).
- Voting system for the Annual Meeting: We will be utilizing Zoom and Google Docs, Ballots will be available for Nominations, Budget and Motions.
- Budget: Terry presented the Budget slides that he will be using for the Budget meetings on November 27<sup>th</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion:** Approve the Budget for 2023 with the changes that have been noted. **MSC.**

### **Announcements**

- The next regularly scheduled Council meeting time will be decided by the new Council.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

**Motion:** To adjourn. **MSC**

- Pastor Amanda closed in prayer.

Prepared by: Jena Reed