

Salem Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 22, 2023

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 Amanda, Don Hales, Mark Boike, Lynn Hansen, Peter MacKay, Sherri Godfrey, Al Schiffler, Renee Voller and Jason Kempthorne.

Absent: Terry Tichenor, Tina Royer

Call to Order

Prayer by Pastor Amanda

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Approve minutes of the May 2023 Council meeting. **MSC**

Treasures Report:

- Don presented a limited edition of the May financials. Lynn reported on the building fund.

Motion: Approve the May 2023 Financial Report as presented. **MSC**

Pastor Amanda's Report

- Hired Amiee Watson as the financial manager and has been training her. Amiee is doing a great job with organization, reconciling and catching up.
- Pastor Amanda has spent more time in the front office than normal with hiring, training and office manager jobs.
- Jazmine Siliznoff has offered to help out in the office 10 to 15 hours a week. She has another main job so she will assist in our office as her schedule permits.
- The website and email were down for a couple weeks which means that we have not been able to send or receive emails.
- Attended the church family camp at Trails RV Park in Walker, MN.

Outreach Report – Jason

- We have received a couple grants.
 - A \$2,000 grant from EFSP 40 for Lunch Bunch for 2023.
 - A grant from Common Goods for textile recycling equipment (bailer and bobcat). Once this is set up, we will recycle textiles in house for Salem West and Common Goods as opposed to paying an outside company to do this for us. We will be paid by the pound for bails of textiles.
- Sales at Mustard Seed continue to increase so it appears that the move has been beneficial. We have great access during the construction of the round a bout so don't expect that to be an issue.

Old Business

- Home Communion Visitors – No update at this time.
- Payroll Update – It is working well with Clergy Financial and will continue at least through the end of this year.
- Music in the Park is July 13th. (Sponsor Table)
- Summerfest – Jason
 - The silent auction for Summerfest is looking pretty bleak at the moment as we have not received many donations.
 - There are 6 spots open for the dunk tank if we are interested in participating.
 - The Lion's Club is no longer holding their annual auction. Perhaps we can touch base with them in the event that they are aware of people wishing to part with items that are no longer wanted.

New Business:

- Under Church Calendar – Men's Fishing Retreat, VBS and Fall Worship.
- Sheltered Reality will be at Salem on August 13th.
- Be aware of budget planning coming soon as the annual meeting has been moved from December to November.

- We need to update signers for Mission Investment Fund.

Motion: Signers for the Mission Investment Fund are Pastor Amanda, Mark Boike and Sherri Godfrey. **MSC**

- City of Deerwood Police Department sent a letter requesting funds. We will not participate at this time.
- Review goals for the year.
 - Pastor Amanda reported that we would like to have stewardship active all year as opposed to fall only when we work with the estimate of giving. There are many more opportunities for stewardship.
 - Building relationships
 - Updating records
 - Putting together a new photo directory
- Schedule the next Parent's night off for August 22nd – Don, Debra, Ed and Sherri will spend time with children that evening. We will plan some time with children so that parents can have a couple hours free.
- We received 9 new members into the church in June. We will have another new member orientation in the fall.
- We have received an offer on the Mustard Seed building in Deerwood.
 - We discussed the terms of the contract.
 - Resolution to vacate the alley on the east side of the Mustard Seed building.

Motion: Adopt a resolution to vacate the alley on the east side of the Mustard Seed building. **MSC**

- At 5:55 the meeting went into an executive session to discuss a binding contract on the Mustard Seed.
- At 6:04 the executive session was closed and the regular meeting resumed.

Committee Reports

- Capital Appeal – Lynn Hansen – We are half way through the 3-year campaign. A report was presented to the council.
- Columbarium – Mark Boike – Planters are getting old and are in need of attention. Mark is going to work on rebuilding them.
- Facilities – Al Schiffler – Ernie has stepped down as the facilities chair and Randy Holmwig will take on that position. Dan, our custodian is not able to keep up with his normal hours as his schedule at the school has changed. He will remain working on maintenance for 5 hours a week. 4 & 47 has been contracted to do the church cleaning. They have done the church cleaning previously. We are hoping to start working on weekly projects on Firdays from 9 – 12. Replace bulbs above the sanctuary. Painting as needed. Repair the wall by the columbarium.
- Faith Formation – Renee Voller
 - VBS supplies have been received. The theme this year is Stars/Constellation. A workshop will be held on Tuesday from 4:00 – 8:00 with Pizza being provided.
- Memorial – Nothing to report – We have 1 grad inquiring about church scholarship.
- Stewardship – Sherri – Nothing to report
- Technology - Amanda – Some services that Deerwood Technologies provide are free while others we pay for. We will be getting rid of computers that are not updating. Some hardware that was on Mustard Seed is being added to Salem West.
- Welcome – Amanda - We welcomed 9 new members in June. We celebrated with cupcakes during fellowship.
- Worship and Music – Amanda –
 - We will be doing hymn sings on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month during the summer. The hymn sings begin 10 minutes prior to worship.
 - There is an opportunity for special music during the summer months which can consist of music, art or poetry.
 - Choir sings on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

SOS – There were no SOS submissions since the May meeting.

The next Church Council Meeting is Thursday, July 27th at 5:00 p.m.

The next Executive Team Meeting is Tuesday, July 18th at 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned

Motion: Motion to adjourn. **MSC**

Pastor Amanda closed in prayer

Prepared by: Sherri Godfrey