Salem Lutheran Church Council

August 22, 2024 @6:30pm

We exist with God’s help, to provide Leadership for Salem Lutheran Church.

* Call to Order:

Members Present: Pastor Amanda Kempthorne, Mark Boike, Lynn Hansen, Sherri Godfrey, Don Hales, Peter MacKay, Jason Kempthorne, Sylvia Hoge, Julie Fritz, Tina Royer. Absent: Nate Van Risseghem.

* Opening with Prayer: Pastor Amanda
* SOS announcement: None
* Approval of the Agenda:
* Motion to approve the agenda with 2 additions, seconded. MSC
* Approval of July 25,2024 minutes:
* Motion to approve the July 2024 meeting minutes, seconded. MSC
* Approve June Financials – Sherri:
  + Motion to approve July 2024 financial report, seconded. MSC
* Pastor’s Report – Pastor Amanda:
  + FYI: Missionary Linda Johnson Seyenkulo is retiring in December. A portion of mission support is currently directed to her ministry. We need to ask for options on how to re-direct our dedicated funds.
  + 1). Schwanke Trust court hearing went smoothly, and the funds have been disbursed to the church. 2). Working with Nomination Team and Confirmation contacts, schedule, and curriculum preparation for Sunday School. 3), Sending letter to 3+ month inactive members, inviting back to Salem this fall prior to capital appeal. 4). Finalize T & T form with Spiritual Gifts team. 5). Fall calendar- Special dates and events, worship, etc. Sept. through Dec. 6). Rally Sunday, Women’s Retreat, Training for Home Communion visitors.
* Outreach Report – Jason:
* Mustard Seed continues to do well financially.
* Outreach received a grant to combat isolation in the community and will use funds to offer 4 dates of meals, fun and games, and dessert to close the evening. These events are also a great way for church members to make connections with their neighbors.
  + The event dates are Sept. 15, Oct. 8, Nov.6, and Dec. 3.
* The OGB decided to no longer offer baked goods at special events unless produced in a commercial kitchen. Lefse will be made if it is requested.

Old Business:

* Cantata discussion w/churches in area – Amanda:
  + There are 2 positions that administer the Cantata – Director and Coordinator, with each having a job description and financial contract. We are seeking both, with the possibility of one individual performing both roles.
  + Pastor Amanda meets with local clergy in September and will discuss Cantata participation then.
* Time and Talent Update 2024:
  + All committees have responded to request for revisions.
  + The completion of the new and improved T & T worksheet will be presented during the September 29 service after all church committees, organizations, and opportunities are featured by a representative from each of these areas.
    - It will be presented to the congregation as identifying “The Gifts we give to God, both in person and financially”.
* Review of goals and measure progress – Jason:
  + Jason led the council through the Salem Strategic Plan Performance Score Card for the end of the quarter. The score card measures the desired outcomes of each of the identified 13 Strategy Objectives in the Plan that strive to achieve the mission of Salem. Each strategy is measured by several ways(metrics) to reach its performance goal. As of the August Council meeting, overall, each strategy area is performing at or above desired performance, and every metric will continue to be worked on.
* Block Party/Deerwood Days:
  + Kudos to Jason, Peter, and OGB for the great job done in pulling the Block Party together, however, there was a complaint voiced at Deerwood Days about Salem missing as a participant.
    - Block Party was well run and organized, but the council decided that in the future we can’t run the event as a standalone. We will work with lead organizers from the community and participate with them next year.

New Business:

* Salem’s Fall Stewardship and Budgeting process schedule – Pastor Amanda and Mark:
  + The 2024 Salem Stewardship and Budgeting process was presented to the council. The calendar of activities goes from July through November at which time the 2025 budget will be presented during the November 10th Annual meeting to the congregation for approval.
  + Pertinent budgeting activities and budget feedback will occur throughout the process, and the committee will use a printed outline as a timeline guide.
* Kevin’s 15th Anniversary as Hand Bell Director – Appreciation party in September:
  + Kevin will be honored for his years of service during worship service on September 1st. Congratulations, Kevin!
* Nomination Team: Discussion was held regarding recruiting guidelines. It was decided that the nomination committee will continue to encourage individuals to apply for open positions, including those who are incumbent candidates.
* Honduras Trip: The question was raised about OGB’s commitment to sponsoring another Honduras mission trip in the future. Jason’s response was that the money is budgeted, but no one has stepped forward to organize a team and trip. The budgeted funds must go directly to the Honduras project(s), and those interested in going would be responsible for their expenses. Don indicated that he is confident he can get the number of people required to make a trip possible.

Committee Reports:

* Capital Appeal – Lynn: The current 3-year campaign ends in November, and a thermometer to indicate the money needed to finish the campaign will be placed in the Narthex for members to see. The next campaign will show quarterly updates. Responsibilities of church members and the consultant group have been finalized. A presentation of the end of the current campaign and the next campaign will be presented during the worship service on September 25th.
* Columbarium – Don: The committee will maintain the Schwanke gravesite.
* Facilities – Nate: Next meeting September 8th.
* Faith Formation – Sylvia: On August 28th the committee will have a table at CRES informing parents and students of Kid’s Club. The first night of it is September 11th. Sunday School starts September 15th.
* Memorial – Peter: Will meet in September.
* Stewardship – Lynn: A letter went out to church members with the giving statement asking for their continued financial support for the remainder of the fiscal year.
* Technology – Julie: A fall meeting will be held.
* Welcome – Tina: A meeting was held on August 22nd (today). New member orientation, the 2025 budget, and potential activities were discussed. A New Member Orientation is planned for October 20, 27, and November 3. Next meeting is October 3rd.
* Worship and Music – Julie: NR

SOS Submission. No submission.

Announcements: Exec Team Meeting September 17th @ 3:00 pm Next Council Meeting September 26th @ 6:30 pm.

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:45 pm.

Closed in Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Royer