Salem Lutheran Church Council

February 27, 2025

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

MSC=The motion was seconded and carried.

Call to Order

Members Present: Pastor Amanda Kempthorne, Lynn Hansen, Don Hales online, Nate Van Risseghem, Tina Royer online, Julie Fritz

Members Absent: Mark Boike, Sherri Godfrey, Alan Niemann, Sylvia Hoge

Opening Prayer: Pastor Amanda

SOS announcement: None

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion to approve the February 27th agenda. MSC

Discussion questions for Chapter 1 of Unlocking Your Church's Invite Culture (not more than 15 min.)

Approval of minutes:

Motion to approve January 23, 2025, meeting minutes. MSC

Motion to approve February 13, 2025, meeting minutes. MSC

Approval of Financials:

Motion to approve the January 2025 financial report. MSC

Pastor’s Report – Pastor Amanda:

\*Lent worship planning:

o Lent Wednesdays – Vespers Worship, no rotating pastors this year. Theme: Questions God asks us

o Crosby Ministerial – Noon Lent Worship, Salem on April 2

\*Catching up on visits, creating a better schedule during the year

\*Home Communion Visitors – final logistics for reporting (not completed). Need to get the people together who are interested. 5 people interested. Meet in March and be ready for the Easter Season.

\*Exploring Worship opportunity: creating accessible worship for those with

intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD) (discussion later in the agenda)

\*January/February- 5 sessions of “Faith Questions” class, 10-20 attendees at each

\*Notification to Contemporary Co-chairs of alternating worship starting June

\* First Communion on Sunday April 6 due to Maundy Thursday conflicts.

Outreach Report:

Distributed money for Honduras. $ 7200 will be sent ahead to Central American Ministry Outreach (CAMINO) for building of 4 houses. $5000 will be sent ahead to Kids Ark International for a building project and for the day camp. At the next meeting, they will see how much money there is in total and distribute it to Home of Blessing to buy food.

There was a late request for money for one of the men who runs a mission who needs new artificial legs. Outreach voted no because we are 501c3 and should not give to one person, but to a community. Discussed whether there was another way to provide support.

* The Council made a motion to encourage church members to support the purchase of prosthetic limbs for a person in Honduras by allowing individuals to contribute directly to the manufacturer with individual donations. MSC.

Looking at garage sales this summer and hoping that board members will step up and take the lead. Need to have volunteers provide most support for the garage sales rather than pay staff to do the work.

Committee Reports

Capital Appeal – Lynn: Last campaign did not reach goal. Second letters were sent out to members and none came back. The church needs to change what we pay monthly. We were paying $1372 above the minimum payment for the first three months of the year.

* There was a motion to change the monthly mortgage payment to the minimum monthly payment of $8628. MSC.

Meeting again in May

Columbarium- Don, Alan- no update

Facilities-Nate- Next meeting March 2

Faith Formation- Sylvia- no meeting. Camp Sunday on March 16

Memorial-Don- Meeting in March

Technology- Julie- no update

Spiritual Gifts- Alan no meeting

Welcome -Tina- Meeting in April and will plan for new member orientation and new member Sunday. Will also have a dinner for new members as a follow up to orientation.

Worship and Music- Julie- Lent planning

Old Business:

Audit Report: The company cannot do an audit. They found many journal entries to move money but could not find any correlating reason. There are 7 things we need to fix in our system, and all are fixed with the new software. Perhaps we will give them our 2025 books and see if we are using the software correctly and try again for the audit.

Furnace quotes: We have two quotes. We made it through the cold weather so it is not imminent that we make a decision, but we need to make a decision before summer. We also need to find where the money will come from.

* We decided to send the quotes off to Facilities and they can look more closely at quotes and come back to Council with recommendations

Parents Night Off- Tuesday March 11 6pm-8pm Julie and Lynn. Will have : Movie, Games, Lemonade and Popcorn, Hot Chocolate.

Deerwood Days: Don, Julie and Paul met to get started on acquiring donations from businesses.

Motion to add the sale of ice cream sundaes(brownies) and cookies to the sale of Meat Balls and Lefsa during Deerwood Days. MSC

New Business:

Easter Worship - 8 AM & 9:30 AM Decided at Exec. Feb 18. No Treats: Let Care and Share know. There will probably be some coffee available.

Summerfest/ Deerwood Days funds distribution: Tabled until next meeting. Will ask Outreach to discuss at their next meeting whether they want some of the money from the fundraiser to go to Outreach, or do they want to designate it back to the church.

Membership - Inactive Update. Discussed members who seem to be inactive. It was decided that Pastor Amanda will send an invitation letter to inactive members.

Alternative Worship -   Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Pastor Amanda

Pastor Amanda has been approached by a person who is interested in funding and piloting church services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It would be a safe place for these people to worship – perhaps with their family and not have to worry about making noise or disrupting services if they act out. Pastor Amanda and the Bishop are interested in starting something like this and including other churches in our area. It will take some work on Pastor Amanda’s part as well as any volunteers who would like to help. Pastor Amanda is asking if the Council is in favor of this.

* The Council decided to table this until more members are present. This will give more time to think about this and discuss it in more depth.

Announcements:

Executive Team Meeting: March 18, 3pm

Next Council Meeting: March 27, 6:30pm. We will discuss Chapter 2 of the book Unlocking Your Church's Invite Culture.

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:05.

Closed in Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Fritz