

COUNCIL MEETING

October 8, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: Lynn called the meeting to order at 6 o'clock.

PRESENT: Jane, Vicar Luke, Teresa, Bethany, Linda, Lynn, Dave, Deb, Pastor Jim, Jason. Frank and Stacy were excused.

NON-COUNCIL MEMBER: none.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve agenda as printed Pastor Jim/Deb MSC.

DEVOTION/TREATS: Jane

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PROPERTY:

Dave reported progress continues on the kitchen project. The electricity for the lights in the Vicar's Office and Library were in a breaker box that was mislabeled. They are now working.

Handicap parking signs- Beth's husband Ken has given us one sign and will be getting us one more. Dave will clean the signs and install.

CYFEd-

Linda reported that Thrivent is offering money for the food shelf through a program titled GIVE BACK. The students in Faith Formation will be collecting food for this program. Vicar Luke informed us that the Cloquet food shelf is able to take fresh meat and vegetables and flash freeze them. They are in need of spices.

CYFEd will be working on their budget at the end of this month.

WORSHIP

Lynn reported that a specialist in piano restoration will be evaluating our piano. It will then be decided if it is appropriate to invest money into tuning it.

The 9 o'clock service on Christmas Eve might be changed.

Joel had a pictures of possible electric candles that would replace our current eternal candle. Linda will give the pictures to Pat and Marv for their input on this issue. The new candle would probably need to be on a stand and Marv might possibly be able to make that for us.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Motion was made it to accept the Secretary's Report as printed Deb/Jane MSC.

CORRESPONDENCE: none

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Motion made to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed Beth/Dave MSC.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Vicar Luke stated he felt the Theological Conference was very helpful in learning the language we should use when communicating with indigenous people. For example mission is a word that is often used in the church but to the indigenous people this was a very negative part of their history. The blanket exercise will be done here in November. This coming Sunday we will be doing Native American Service.

Wednesday night service using the workshop lab model will be used soon. This format involves more participation from the Faith Formation students. They will be working on writing the prayers for some of the services. Johanna is going to lead us in a Camp Service and a representative from VLM will also be at that service.

Vicar Luke attended the Kettle River Conference and is on the committee that will be working on preparations to elect a new bishop next year.

He discussed with some of the pastors present as to how they handle helping people in need. He will be checking with a group that works together with the Salvation Army.

He also learned that there is a support group for church secretaries. Council feels Bobbie should go if she is interested.

Pastor Jim did an icebreaker with the council to help us connect with each other on a more personal level.

He stated that soon about 35 churches in the North East ELCA Synod will have Pastor openings.

He also stated that there are going to be many changes in the constitution after the convention next year.

He gave us some questions for the Council and congregation to consider during the call process. He has been spending his time doing hospital visits for those in Duluth and also attending Men's Study on Fridays.

OLD BUSINESS:

New church directory- it is possible that the last company that did our directory does not actually charge to print the directory. Stacy/Deb will give us a report about this at the next council meeting. It would include anyone who attends church and would not label them as a member.

Automatic deposit for congregation- Stacy will report on this at the next council meeting.

Scandinavian Supper- WELCA postponed it until next year due to delay in completion of kitchen project. May have a community dinner when the project is completed.

There will be a Finnish pancake breakfast Monday, October 14 at Bethesda.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Johanna Bernu's coat drive the month of November- Vicar Luke stated she will do this specifically for Carlton County. Jane will check with social ministry as to how long they will be collecting items for the Damiano Center.

2. Web Development Policy - Luke spoke with Sue Coady and it was decided that the current Web site is worn out. It needs updated information. Sue is willing to support whatever process we decide on. It was suggested that we check out other church sites and see which format we would like to use.

3. Call Committee- Council needs to appoint. There should be 6 to 8 people of various age groups. Took names of possible candidates. Executive committee will call them.

4. Phone Provider - Luke stated that we should be able to have more functions such as transferring calls from Bobbie's phone to another phone. Maybe we need to have someone come and give us an in-service on how more fully use our current system.

Pastor Jim –Do we have a nominating committee? Lynn-Yes we do, it is made up of those members who have gone off the council. Jason and Teresa indicated that they will not be on the ballot for another term.

THANK YOU: to Ken Leseman for handicap parking signs.

NEXT MEETING: November 12, 6 o'clock

EXECUTIVE MEETING: Per email on November 5

Executive Committee to work on members of Call Committee– Lynn will notify.

DEVOTION/TREATS: Linda , for Frank as he will probably still be gone.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 Jason/Jane MSC.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

October 10 via text message with all council members: " The Synod has recommended for the council to be the Call Committee for the special circumstance we are in with Vicar Luke being a call candidate. If Luke does not accept a call from Bethesda then we would follow standard procedure of forming a call committee.

Unanimously voted by council to follow Synod recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Newlon, Council Secretary