

## COUNCIL MEETING

OCT 13, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Lynn called the meeting to order at 5:35.

PRESENT: Lynn, Dave, Jane, Deb, Linda, Pastor Jim, Stacy.

Beth and Frank had been excused.

NON-COUNCIL MEMBER: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to accept the agenda as written with addition under Old Business of Pastor Mary's picture and handicap signs Stacy/Deb MSC.

DEVOTION: Pastor Jim- How do you know what you are doing is in line with God's will? If the Fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control are there you are probably doing God's will. If they're not there then you're probably not doing God's will.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PROPERTY- Dave reported that the thermostat in the Vicar's office is not working. Boilers are now on at minimal setting.

The remaining trees by the parking lot will be probably removed by Jon Kolb with some help from Lew, Dave and other volunteers. Once a date is decided phone calls will be made and it will be put on Facebook for those who would love to help. Was not able to contact Speed Westerberg as he is hunting out of state.

CYFED- Linda, the 6 graders are now studying Law/Gospel and Saint/Sinner.

The fall gathering on Nov 21 is going to be virtual and we are going to try to have those who want to be part of it meet at church using social distancing. Wendy is has contacted the students and their families.

WORSHIP- Lynn, In-person services are going well and online has actually increased for these services. On Sunday will survey those in church as to whether they would attend an in person Thanksgiving service.

Pastor will be at services 2 Sundays per month and send recordings of the Message for the other services during the month. At this time we will not be using pulpit supply.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Motion was made to accept the Secretary's Report as printed Pastor Jim/Stacy MSC.

Discussed person in Wrenshall that needs some help with yard maintenance. Project is still on hold waiting for replies from congregation members as to whether or not they would be able to help with these projects.

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Motion made to accept Treasurer's Report as printed Deb/Jane MSC.

Gas - seems low, it was only \$19. This is because we are on budget payment.

Electric- seems high but it is for August and September.

Lynn talked to Nita and Sue Cody about removing the "Investment Income" from our Total Income for each month as this money is not included in the budget for our church's day to day operations. Both Nita and Sue said it needs to be shown under Total Income each month and on our Balance Sheet under ASSETS which is necessary for our Balance Sheet to balance. There may be a different program available where the investment income would not need to show under our regular income but we do not currently have access to such a system.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Jim stated that he usually does a sermon on stewardship during the fall. He has been sending emails, making phone calls, visiting and continues with Men's Bible Study on Fridays. One of the attendees is not able to come at this time because he gave up driving. Linda volunteered to give him a ride and she will call and discuss this with him.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Call Committee- Current members are Chris Mitchell, JoAnn Gustafson, Betty Peterson, Noah and Paula Olsen, Jenny Lokken, and Jason Goad. Our constitution says there has to be a minimum of six on this committee.

There is an interim pastor at United Lutheran in Proctor. That church has 70 members. Lynn has contacted them to see if they would be open to sharing a pastor. Lynn will let us know if their council would like to discuss this with our council by Zoom on November 8 at 11 o'clock.

New directory- On hold

New signage - Council members discussed the sample that had been sent to us. We had originally thought we would like to have black on a white background. The sample was white on a black background which we

decided we liked.

Lynn will notify Sue of our decision.

River's Edge- Lynn has not heard back from them at this time.

Gardens at IFCC- Beth/Linda

Three members from the church did go and weed some in the gardens at the front of Interfaith Care Center. They found that most of the plants that are there are not very healthy and possibly need to be removed. That whole area maybe needs to be completely redone in the spring. Will contact Alyssa from Soil Water Conservation District and see what her thoughts are as far as any more work in that area this fall.

Church Mutual Insurance- Lynn spoke to them about our new monthly payment and being refunded for over payments made in August, September and October for our General Liability Insurance. Church Mutual advised that if we increase our Property Deductible from \$1000 to \$2500 we could save \$621.09 per year. Since the church has never filed a claim for property damage in over 30 years a Motion was made to increase our deductible to \$2500 by Pastor Jim/Deb MSC.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Restorative Justice Request- This is a program that is part of the juvenile court system. The offenders rather than getting punishment have to work on projects. Lynn reported that they are going to try to start a project that teaches the kids in the program how to cook. She is wondering if we would make our kitchen available to them. They would bring all the ingredients, would have adult supervision and be following all COVID guidelines. They will take their food home in their own containers.

Motion was made to allow use of the church kitchen with stipulation of adult supervision, following all COVID guidelines, and no interference with Church scheduled activities Lynn/Stacy MSC.

Stipends for Music/Worship Leaders- Lynn presented the recommended from the Worship Team that we give a stipend to Joel and Christy of \$50/ Sunday for the work they do to prepare and present in- person and online Church services.

Joel had been getting \$150/ Sunday for online service and when we went to in-person service Joel felt he no longer needed to be paid that amount. Motion made to give Joel and Christy a stipend of \$50/Sunday Lynn/Jane MSC.

Pastor Jim's salary- Pastor Jim has an increased amount of time he is spending for church services as he is doing in-person services and a recorded message the other Sundays. He also has increased time and mileage with the confirmation classes and in-person meetings with Council, CYFED, and Worship Team.

Motion was made to increase Pastor Jim's salary \$2,1000 per month Deb/Jane MSC.

Pastor Mary's picture - Lynn has the picture and the paper needed for the border. The picture will be up before the next Council meeting.

Pastor Jim commented that the banner in the fellowship hall regarding the 100th anniversary of the church still needs a B for Bethesda. Jane said she is willing to make letters and put them on the banner.

Handicap parking signs- Dave said that they will be put up before winter.

**THANK YOU:** Pastor Jim suggested we send a thank you to Wendy for all the work that she does for Faith Formation.

**NEXT MEETING:** Nov.10 at 5:30.

Stacy knows she has extended hours at work that day so she will not be able to be here right at 5:30.

**EXECUTIVE MEETING:** Nov.3 per email.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 Jane/Deb MSC.

Closed with the LORD'S PRAYER

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Newlon, Council Secretary