

Council Meeting  
Aug. 18, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Lynn called the meeting to order at 5:34.

ATTENDANCE: Lynn, Dave, Pastor Jim, Beth, Deb, Stacy, Linda, and Frank.  
Jane had been excused.

NON-COUNCIL MEMBER: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Lynn requested that Waddell/Reed be added under new business. Motion was made to approve the agenda as printed with Lynn's addition Stacy/Dave MSC.

DEVOTION- Pastor Jim provided devotion about habits and how we can use our prayer life to change habits that are not healthy.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PROPERTY: Dave discussed options of how to deal with the tree damage in our parking lot. Our insurance will pay \$25,000 but we have a \$1000 deductible. Grover's Tree Removal and Jon Kolb have been asked to give us estimates. One of the trees may need to be completely removed. Pastor Jim mentioned Barks Tree Service might be another company that we might consider. Lynn has asked Lew Castle if he would come and give us his input on whether or not we could do this project with volunteer labor.

CYFED: Linda - there was no report of any Covid cases from the group that had attended Confirmation. First Communion classes will resume tomorrow Wednesday, August 19 and the last class will be the following Wednesday on August 26. The students in that class will receive their First Communion at the outdoor service on August 30. They will each receive their own chalice for communion at that time. Wendy contacted the families of those students who will be in Faith Formation classes this next 2020-21 class year as to what would work for them. The pamphlet of the schedule is finished and will be available to the congregation. Some ideas have been suggested as to what Bethesda could do for service projects since the area wide God's Work Our Hands work has been canceled. One suggestion is that each family or an individual do a project that is helpful to the community or a neighbor and take a picture that could be posted on Facebook. The people who participate in this project will possibly receive a gift card for a local business.

WORSHIP: Lynn - August 30 will be an outdoor service and First Communion for the students in that class. There will be in person services in the church on September 13 and 27th with social distancing in place and masks required.

Our current Bethesda Facebook and Bethesda YouTube will be provided on the other Sundays in September.

Services for October will be discussed at the next Worship Committee meeting Sept. 15.

#### SECRETARY 'S REPORT:

Motion was made to accept the Secretary's Report as printed Pastor Jim/Frank MSC.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT:

JUNE-We did not review this in July as we had no Council meeting in July.

Investment income needs to be added to statement each quarter, but should be only on balance sheet not under income. Lynn will check with Nita regarding this issue. Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed with the understanding that in the future investment income will not be listed under church income Frank/Beth MSC.

JULY-

On page 5 on July 15 there is an amount labeled quarterly payroll taxes Q2 2020 of \$184 and on July 20 it's states quarterly taxes Q2 2020 of \$1159.90

Stacy will check with Nita to better identify these payments.

We had been billed for garbage pick up in May and July but our service had been canceled. We have received a refund for those 2 months and that amount will be reflected in the August Financial Statement.

Frandsen Bank had billed us for account services. We had canceled our account with them and Nita has done all the paperwork that they required. At this time we are waiting for them to correct that error. Motion was made to accept the July statement as printed with the understanding that Stacy will check with Nita regarding page 5 Frank/Stacy MSC.

#### PASTOR'S REPORT:

Synod Convention- Will be done virtually on August 28 and 29th. Pastor Jim will check to see if Bethesda was still being charged for two people. We had requested a reimbursement because we are only able to send one congregation delegate. If they still have us down for 2 Pastor Jim will use the second registration. If they have credited our account to only one Bethesda will pay for Pastor Jim register himself.

Men's Bible study on Friday – there are usually 7-10 men attending. Very good discussion time. Another suggestion for an out reach program is to have a food shelf Sunday and put the item and the results on Facebook.

Pastor stated he has noticed that our Church schedule is not in the Pine Knot Lynn replied that we usually put it in the Pine Journal. Lynn will check on the cost is for the Pine Knot.

Pastor said we need to do whatever is possible to remain visible in the community. He wondered about the possibility of doing the meatball supper. Lynn stated that there's a group of church ladies who have been brainstorming how we can do that with Covid regulations and without going against the regulations by the state regarding not being a commercial kitchen.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

New Church Directory- on hold

New website – on hold

Question from last meeting on the Treasurer's Report concerning the \$25 given to CYFED- Lynn checked with Wendy and the \$25 has been transferred to Memorial to be used toward the

Stewardship class.

Church insurance - Frank gave us a very detailed report of the policy that we could get from Young Ins. He did not know what our current amount is for Worker's Comp. so they were not able to give us a comparison for that item. At this time it looks like there would be a substantial savings to go through Young insurance but Frank will find out about the Worker's Comp. Frank will also call Church Mutual, our current insurance company, to let them know we are thinking of changing to another company and see if Church Mutual will be able to give us a new quote.

New signage- Lynn has not received an update from Sue.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Frank brought up that in further review of the June and July Treasurer's Reports that there is a payment on June 30 for church insurance monthly that covers the period of 3/09 to 12/09 in the amount of \$452.75.

On July 31 there is a payment for the same period of time it says it is for church insurance monthly in the amount of \$1125.25.

Stacy/Lynn will check with Nita about these payments.

Call Committee- Lynn spoke with Chris Mitchell and at this time there are no new leads as to possible candidates. Currently our information says we are looking for someone with 1 to 4 years of experience. Brenda at the Synod office stated that if we were to increase that to eight years it would open up more possibilities for candidates. The amount we are getting over expenses at this time is not enough to pay a pastor with eight years of experience. We do have money in our checkbook and Waddle/Reed account to supplement our income that could pay for a more experienced pastor for about 2 years. Lynn spoke to Rivers Edge (Presbyterian Church in Carlton) and at this time they are not ready to decide if they would be willing to share a pastor.

Pastor Jim said that he knows a pastor who might be available.

Council decided that at this time the Call Committee should stay with our current guidelines. Later we would possibly be able to change to include a candidate with more than 1 to 4 years of experience.

Pollinator garden- Lynn has received information from the county and will send that to Beth. It was originally suggested that a new garden be planted by our bell tower. Beth stated that is not a good location for pollinators. Linda suggested we should find out if we could possibly redo one of the gardens at Interfaith since those gardens are in need of attention.

In Church Service- it was decided at Worship Committee to do in person service on September 13 and September 27. Alice and Cliff will sanitize all used areas after the two services.

Waddell /Reed- Lynn said that she was contacted about moving our account from Ivy to a more socially conscious program. Pershing will be the new provider and with them it will also be easier to transfer from savings account to checking.

THANK YOU: Andy and Jason for music at the July 19 service.

NEXT MEETING: due to conflicts In Lynn's (President) and Frank's (Vice President) schedules the next meeting will be September 22 at 5:30.

EXECUTIVE MEETING: Sept 15 By email

DEVOTION/(TREATS On hold)-

??? Pastor Jim or Beth

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made at 7:13 to adjourn the meeting Dave/Frank MSC.

The LORD'S PRAYER

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Newlon, Council Secretary