

COUNCIL MEETING
May 19,2020

CALL TO ORDER: Lynn called the meeting to order at 5:32.

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

NON-COUNCIL MEMBER: none.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made to approve the agenda as printed Pastor Jim/Jane MSC.

DEVOTION/TREATS: Dave read a devotion but it had been decided that we would have no treats due to COVID-19.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PROPERTY- Dave stated that the boiler is still working. Part of the problem with the heating system was that the pressure gauge was not reading accurately and the boiler that is not turned on at this time had a leak in the pipe. He is waiting for parts to repair that problem. He is trying to find the split in the pipe that supplies heat to the sanctuary and the offices so that the heat to those areas can be better regulated. It is now thought that the pipe comes up from the basement and goes up over the old wall into that area that was added.

CYFEd- Linda reported that the students in the first communion class were provided with a video about the last days of Jesus. It was delivered to each student in time for them to watch at Easter. Wendy had delivered \$11 to each of the fifth grade students as part of their stewardship class and they have been sending videos to the Church website regarding how they used that money. Those students who have sent in their videos have just recently received their second amount of money which is \$60 and will need to send videos telling the congregation how they use that money.

In recognition of their graduation five seniors went through the prayer labyrinth and then went into the sanctuary to receive a blessing and a quilt from the church. Each student received a time to be at the church with their family so social distancing was possible throughout both of these activities. Two other seniors chose not to participate in these activities but they each did receive a quilt. The next activity that is being planned is Confirmation. At this time the families have indicated that June 28 would work the best for them. Joel feels he might be able to do that as a live service on Facebook. Pastor Jim will conduct the service and provide the message. Pastor Jim and Joel will contact Wendy to work on the details for this service.

WORSHIP- Lynn stated that the Synod is suggesting that no plans to be made for in person service through the summer. Part of the guidelines that the Synod will be following are that there would be no new cases of COVID-19 for two weeks before in-person service could resume. Pastor Jim will do all of the messages for the month of June. Joel will continue to organize the services. In July it might be possible for us to do some outdoor service and set that up to allow for social distancing.

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

CORRESPONDENCE: Audrey Seboe Kavanaugh had sent \$100 to the church in appreciation of being able to listen to the services on Facebook. A thank you was sent to her by the Council Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report Frank/Dave MSC. Income is down some but it is still more than monthly expenses. Stacy will put a reminder on the website and Facebook regarding that even though the church is not open for services it continues to have monthly expenses. Pastor Jim suggested making a highlight in the newsletter of all the activities that have been going on even though in-person church service is not being held.

Garbage collection will be put on hold.

Frank was wondering if we might be able to get a rebate on our church liability insurance when there is nobody in the building at this time. Pastor Jim suggested maybe having another company come in and give us a quote.

Frank will research another company.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Pastor Jim reported on discussion concerning doing Home Communion when the elements have not been blessed by a pastor. The bishop feels that they need to be blessed by a pastor and others have stated that they feel that wherever two or more are gathered in His name Jesus is there.

Pastors Jim stated that he has enjoyed working with Joel on the services.

Synod Convention will be held sometime in the fall but it'll only be for one day. It has not been decided yet if it

will be the last week of August or the first week of September.

Pastor Jim feels that Bethesda is functioning very well through the committees and volunteers.

OLD BUSINESS:

Signage – on hold

New Church Directory- On hold

Call Committee - Lynn reported that the Call Committee has gotten feedback from the Synod regarding our profile that was submitted and the Call Committee has received training. The profile is now available on Facebook to possible candidates.

Copier- Memorial /Endowment has set aside money and will move forward with the purchase in the future.

Northeast Synod Convention - Per Pastor Jim's report it will be one day in either August or September.

NEW BUSINESS:

Synod guidelines for returning to In-Person Worship,- 3 stages.(Lynn do you want to print the details of these three stages?)

We will let back in at Bethesda those groups that are 10 or less. That includes the mat makers, Al-Anon, and the Jam Group. We will have hand sanitizer and wipes available with information regarding safety precautions and social distancing.

Pastor Jim's hours for June - Will continue at 10 hours per week.

Pulpit supply - Joel will continue to organize services.

Updating members- Will make calls to current members. Those who have made calls the last two months will just advance one page from what they did last month. We will let the people we call know that some area church services are being aired on the radio. Bobbie is going to put a list in the newsletter as to which churches those are and when the services are aired.

THANK YOU: None at this time

NEXT MEETING: June 16. More businesses will probably be opening up at the beginning of June, so we will know more by the 16th what is going to be appropriate regarding church.

EXECUTIVE MEETING: June 9 per email

DEVOTION/TREATS: Linda

ADJOURNMENT: at 6:26 motion

was made to adjourn the meeting Dave/Jane MSC.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Newlon, Council Secretary