

Council Meeting
November 12, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: Lynn called the meeting to order at 6:09.

ATTENDANCE: Stacy, Dave, Deb D., Vicar Luke, Jane, Pastor Jim, Linda, Lynn, Jason and Frank.
Teresa had been excused.

NON-COUNCIL MEMBER: none

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion was made to accept the agenda as printed Dave/Beth MSC.

DEVOTION/ TREATS: Linda

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PROPERTY: Dave- Dave with the help of Terry Coady has been flushing the heating system with the hopes of being able to have heat throughout the whole building. There is a tank that needs to be replaced and Dave will call for a work crew when that is ready to be done.

CYFED: Linda- Middle School Gathering will be the week before Thanksgiving. Four students, their chaperone, and Vicar Luke will be attending. Vicar Luke gave us some information about a Peer Mentor Program. He spoke to some other area churches about this today and we might be able to partner with them. During Advent the Wednesday service will change to 5:30 meal, 6 o'clock service, 6:30 confirmation. This will allow congregation members to get home a little earlier. It will encourage students to attend worship and provide more time for discussion at end of the class session.

WORSHIP: Lynn- Vicar Luke introduced the Psalms for the Season. A start up choir would sing the refrain with the congregation.

The piano is not worth saving per information from a piano expert. It would be costly to repair and then would need constant maintenance as it is not kept in a temperature and humidity controlled room. It may possibly be re-purposed as a prop for the Encore Theater. Information about the piano will be put in the church bulletin and the Beacon.

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

Correspondence - none.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Miscellaneous income – this amount was a payment from Al-Anon.

In/Out- \$16.41 was for the use of copy machine

\$159 was from the NE MN ELCA Synod Together Here event.

Frank questioned how often background checks are done. They are done annually for anyone who is in contact with our children and youth for classes and/or activities.

Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report Pastor Jim/Jason MSC.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Vicar Luke- he reported on the Growing Young workshop presented by the Synod that was held in Cromwell. He attended along with Myrna, Debby J., and Linda. He felt the information that was provided fits in well with the Crossroads program. The main emphasis is on empowering the younger people so that they can step into various roles in the church.

He also had attended a meeting in Hinckley that was focused on creation and how we can do things in the church and in our personal life that make an impact on our environment and the resources we have been given. He also gave us information about how some churches send out detailed newsletters by hiring a company that runs ads and this pays for the newsletter.

Pastor Jim – he reported that one of the missions of our new bishop will be in helping congregations close their doors.

He gave us some information from the Synod about Seasons of Change (see a copy that is attached to these minutes.) He commented that he does not feel that Bethesda is a dying church.

He discussed some specific ways that we could help in the community and greet people who are new to the community. He stated he would be willing to help a group with such projects.

OLD BUSINESS:

New church directory- Stacy/Deb Stacy has left messages with the company who did our last directory and has not had a response back from them. She will continue to work on finding out if they would be available to do our directory. She will ask if we to have a minimum number of participants and also what days the company would be available. This project will not be started until after Christmas.

Automatic deposit- Stacy will discuss with Bobbie the printing of more copies of the form that needs to be filled out and have it available to the congregation.

Pastor Jim was wondering if we have pursued using the Thrivent Choice Dollars and Action Team Cards programs. Linda stated that she and Ginny Kortie-Castle are working on getting information to the congregation regarding these programs.

Pastor Jim also mentioned that when a person is 70 1/2 years old they can have money sent to the church that won't be taxed. A Thrivent agent would probably be able to give the congregation information about this type of donation.

Johanna's Coat Drive- Jane reported that Social Ministry continues their winter clothing drive until January.

Victor Luke stated that Johanna's could just be a separate box and labeled so that donors know it is going to go directly to Carlton County residents.

Web Development Plan- Council members input about other church websites. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Call Committee- The Call Committee made up of council members, had an interview with Vicar Luke on November 5. A call of our candidate of choice was given to him on November 7. He stated that he had an interview with another church scheduled. He is going to re-interview with us on November 21.

Phone Provider- now able to transfer calls from one phone to another with our current system. Sue states that there is no other less expensive option available in this area.

Handicap sign-waiting for one more sign.

NEW BUSINESS:

Crossroads Worship Team- Piano- Jason will do an oral presentation to the congregation of the information in the Worship Committee Report.

THANK YOU: none at this time.

NEXT MEETING: Dec 10

EXECUTIVE MEETING: Dec 3

Via email

DEVOTION/TREATS: Stacy

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 Jason/Dave MSC.

Closed with the LORD'S PRAYER

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Newlon, Council Secretary