

MT. ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

June 14, 2016

COUNCIL MEMBERS/STAFF

PRESENT: Vice President Aaron Adams, Pastor Erin Nelson, Robin Arneson, Katie Jones, Shelley Hallen, Scott Jahns, Jason Gigure, Linda Yde, Olive Olson, Joan Christopher, Cameron Jahns and Laura Gerds.

EXCUSED: President Carl Meincke, Jodi Becker, Jim Johnson,
Sonja Johnson, Dennis O'Connell and Einar Hanson.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice President Aaron Adams called the meeting to order at 7:02pm at Mt. Zion. Vice President Aaron then asked Pastor Erin to lead a prayer. Pastor lit a candle to remind us that God is present in this place. Pastor Erin led a devotion about focusing on glorifying God in everything Mt. Zion does. A prayer was said. Vice President Aaron then asked for an approval of the Agenda as printed.

Shelley Hallen/Cameron Jahns

Moved/Second/Carried

STAFF REPORTS:

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

Joan Christopher-Written report.

Joan reported under budget for the month \$766.06

Under budget \$3,520.95 for the year.

79% of the 3-year goal of Time to Prosper of \$384,495 has been given.

Mission Investment Fund Loan Balance is \$702,591.52 as of 6-01-2016.

TREASURER:

Robin Arneson Written report.

Robin reported under budget for the month \$53.96 and over budget year to date \$1,031.81

Checkbook balance as of 6-01 is \$5,344.35.

Olive was wondering about her Board's spending.

Robin will update her later.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Pastor submitted a written report.

Pastor attended 26 meetings in April along with other meetings:

3 Personal Counseling,

1 Home Visit,

2 Nursing Home Visits,

1 Synod Assembly

1 St. Croix Conference.

0 vacation days used in May 3 used out of 23 for 2016
1 Sick Days in May with 5 out of 13 for 2016.
0 Sundays used out of 4
Membership Adjustments and Pastoral Acts: Baptism 3
Transfers in: 0
Transfers out: 0

Adults 290
Youth 87
Total Baptized Membership 377
Associate Members 11

ANNA'S UPDATES:

Vice President Aaron sent around the July and August calendars for updates.
Also, the deadline for July Newsletter is June 22 by noon.

Approve Staff Reports
Shelley Hallen/Scott Jahns
M/S/C

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY:

Shelley Hallen and Jodi Becker
Shelly emailed the minutes of the meeting.
Change for Change offering is now going for Malawi Relief.
Looking for a person to replace Amanda Stojan on the Scholarship Committee.
May 15 meeting highlights:
Sunday School - Angie has the schedule done for the coming school year.
Christmas program is written and verifying program date.
Angie is setting up prayer partners.
Judy stepping down from music. Angie will ask other moms or students to play.
Will take the summer to figure out if we want/need a HS program.

Church library - still looking for someone to handle the adult section.

Kids' Club-Kids helped and total earned was \$400 with \$400 match. Two sofas will be purchased.
Most of the kids will clean next Wednesday.
Grill out for church June 1; rain or shine.
Pastor will have Kids Club do a skit for s'more worship.
Presbyterian church is doing the background check on our one person so we do not have to buy the whole protection package.

VBS-Amanda is collecting applications.

Pastor is ready to order t-shirts online for about \$7 each. They take about 4 weeks, so we will have to order before the June 19 t-shirt date to be sure we get them. VBS 2016 and the churches shows on shirts. It was discussed if we need to background check each volunteer. We decided to wait and see who signs up to volunteer; many of them may be checked already. Sunday night's volunteer cookout should definitely have discussion on our "protection policy" regardless who has had the background check.

Child Protection Information - Council does not need to approve our policy, and it does not need to be a form that is signed. Amanda can have Kids' Club volunteers sign if wanted.

Linda Yde gave us a copy of Rotary's policy, so we will see if some of that should be incorporated. However, Amanda can use the policy that is already written in the meantime.

Other - Sunday school banner was given to Angie to use somewhere.

Next meeting is June 26 at 10AM. We will not meet in July.

YOUTH DEACONS:

Laura Gerdtts and Cameron Jahns

No trip to Valley Fair as not enough people had pre-registered.

BOARD FOR FINANCE:

Jim Johnson and Scott Jahns

Scott stated President Carl did a great job of explaining the Capital Campaign firms at the meeting on Sunday as it passed to hire Mark Davy and Associates as the consultant for the next 3 years.

BOARD FOR PROPERTY:

Dennis O'Connell and Jason Gigure

Jason asked where the money for the blinds in Anna's office will come from.

Hired a person to spray the lawn for weeds.

There is a spot where the valleys of the roofs come together and is causing a leak in the lower level. Dennis and Jason will remove the rocks and redo the ground to have it slope away from the building.

Will try a cheap fix for the outdoor lights of just changing the bulbs to see if that works first.

BOARD FOR OUTREACH AND SOCIAL MINISTRY:

Sonja Johnson and Olive Olson

Sonja emailed the minutes of the June 6 meeting.

Olive stated thinking about what to do for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. Also about acknowledging other volunteers that go above and beyond.

Highlights of meeting:

Food Shelf - need someone to attend board meetings on the second Monday of the month at 7pm at St. Patrick's Catholic Church.

Blood Drive - Pastor will determine if Memorial Blood Drive will be a good fit for Mt. Zion. Red Cross may provide their own volunteers if we provide space.

H.O.M.E. Meal - Sonja emailed H.O.M.E. lead about Mt. Zion's limited human resources for this ministry going forward.

Habitat for Humanity - Last meeting will be June 12. Wall build June 23.

Quilters - Asked Joan Saathoff to submit the bill.

Fellowship Committee - Kathy Opland will be gone 3 1/2 weeks. Fellowship items will be stocked, coffee machine cleaned and defrosted so there should not be any issues.

Acknowledgements for Long Term Volunteers - Discussion ensued of Thank you acknowledgements for long term volunteers or some other type of recognition. Will build on this discussion at a future meeting with input from others to see where this should go. Discussed a "feet" theme (Jesus washing feet of disciples, - goes with discipleship theme- thanking volunteers with a display of flip flops with volunteers, pictures on them and what they do, thank you gifts could be pedicures, slippers,) Dual purpose of thanking/recognizing volunteer efforts and letting others in the congregation know what volunteer opportunities are available. Try to get something in place for November 'thankful' theme

Think of something '500' for Reformation anniversary in 2017. Tabled at this time, maybe revisit a fall festival idea?

Next Meeting Summer meetings: Date & Time TBD for July, August 1 @ 6:30 pm – location TBD

BOARD FOR MUSIC AND WORSHIP: Einar Hanson and Linda Yde Linda reported that Mike Yde is doing a great job as the Interim Chairperson of the Altar Guild. Large print bulletins are now available for Sunday Worship. Linda asked that a sign with office hours be posted. Perhaps a white board on an easel close to the front door would do for now. Updating the church directory is already being done by Anna. New members will receive a picture directory with the updates and current members would receive the updates to add to their picture directory.

WELCA: Joan reported serving at CCH on Wednesday serving 50-60 people. Entertainment will be Lola Scott, Norma Jean Mabry and Katie Jones who will sing.

Approve Board and Committee reports
Olive Olson/Linda Yde M/S/C.

OLD BUSINESS:

NETworks Update - Danny resigned effective immediately. Board is meeting weekly to decide

their focus. Four people applied for this position and there is not even a job application out there yet.

Pastor Erin said Mt. Zion has 3 choices:

1. Stay for another year at approximately \$8,000.
2. Pull out entirely.
3. Stay for a year but even lower funding.

By the end of August, Mt. Zion needs to decide to tell the NETworks board so they know how to proceed. Attendance for NETworks was brought up and Pastor Erin replied Middle School averages 5 and High School 8.

Kids' Club was also brought up and they average 15.

Pastor then reminded everyone to be ready with their decision about NETworks for the August Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of Carl Meincke as Capital Campaign Chair.

Vice President Aaron as for a motion to that effect.

Approve President Carl Meincke as the Capital Campaign Chair.

Scott Jahns/Olive Olson

M/S/C

Capital Campaign additional projects discussion such items would be NETworks, Synod Benevolence, Kids' Club coordinator.

Scott thinks that anything that is over one year should be part of the general budget. Pastor brought up Synod Benevolence could be part of the budget, but other ministries would be in the Capital Campaign. Other items for the Capital Campaign are chairs, west parking lot flooding, sound treatment for the Commons, In-house TV's for information and Google Documents/Apps. LED light conversion for parking lot.

Was discovered the two lights are different.

One takes a \$20 and the other a \$40 light bulb. Ballasts are \$95 and \$165 and to change to LED would be \$585 X 2 plus labor = \$1,702.00. Property will try the easy fix by changing light bulbs.

Synod Convention Report - Pastor Erin and Vice President Aaron attended this day-long event in Eau Claire. Need to make hopeful goals out of faith. Need to promote online giving. Another highlight was social media. Have a Social Media Sunday. Go on Facebook or text your friends you are in church and ask them to send you a message back on "How can I pray for you today?" Some of Synod Benevolence will go to Technology Grants as many churches do not have websites. Other money will go to assist new clergy to pay down some of their Seminary debt. Grants for Continuing Education for pastors will also be a focus.

COMMENTS for the GOOD of OUR COMMUNITY:

Shelley asked about the monthly newsletter. Pastor stated there are some printed copies available in the Commons Information Area.

Shelley also asked about information for new members. Pastor stated she meets with the new members and they are given a tour and a packet where she goes over the contents.

No meeting in July.

Next meeting is Tuesday, August 9 at Carl Meincke's home

Time to be determined.

Motion made to adjourn at 8:31pm

Cameron Jahns/Laura Gerdts

M/S/C

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Jones

Council Secretary