

St Stephen Lutheran Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes, November 14, 2022 FINAL

Marla Amborn (filling in for Mira Stearns) called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Pastor Jim Woodruff, Patsy Olson, Ken Smith, Betsy Clark, Marla Amborn, John Rohr (via zoom)

Absent: Mira Stearns, Judee Bramscher

Devotions: First Thessalonians 5:16-18. Philippians 4:4-7. As we approach Thanksgiving, Paul and others admonish God's people to give thanks. Rejoicing and praying for all things in all circumstances. Both of these texts were written by Paul probably in Rome in prison, charged with sedition (another God other than Caesar). Rejoice in the Lord always, pray without ceasing, bring your prayers with supplication and thanksgiving. As we are approaching the week of Thanksgiving, we move in/out of these holidays so smoothly that we need to remember to not take them for granted. Need to take time to think of what the purpose of these holidays are. Thanksgiving is for every day of our lives. As a nation we need to acknowledge that there is a God to whom we can be thankful.

Prayer Concerns: John Rohr's mom Blanche continued prayers. Mike Dignan. Annette Johnson. Bill Kneip. Patty Beitzel (visiting). Glen Alstad. Marla's mother-in-law Bernie. Prayer of thanks for Barson, family arrived to stay, in US Friday big reunion, has apartment, mini-van.

Approval of Minutes – Minutes for October reviewed, no changes.

A motion was made by Betsy Clark seconded by Ken Smith to approve the October Council minutes. Voted on and carried unanimously.

Adjustments to the Agenda: No adjustments.

Treasurer's Report – Patsy Olson

Balance sheet Total cash assets: Checking \$66,748.78. Savings \$32,803.50. CDs totaling \$48,317.05. Grand total \$147,869.33.

Patsy wanted council to know that as of 11/14/22, \$25,500 had been moved from the Current Fund Checking (line item 11) into the Endowment Fund so the current fund is lower now (\$46,782.95). Line item 17 Endowment Fund of ELCA has been added to the Balance Sheet and will be listed each month.

Benevolence Fund Net income balance of \$799.57. She has made the monthly transfer into designated accts ELCA for \$1,000 and Tecate for \$100. Also money has been transferred for Lukani. Hence the lower benevolence balance since last month.

Capital Fund Net income \$78,334.28. Does not reflect the recent sewer issue last week.

Cash Reserve Fund \$37,640.79. Steady growth upward each month.

Current Fund Total income is \$256,525.11. Total expense \$317,197.92. Deficit of (negative) \$-60,672.81. Deficit creeping up, smaller donations this month.

Special Designated Funds Special Designated Accts \$22,762.51. General Funding Accts \$40,972.88. This report includes the Endowment fund which is at \$25,880. Transferred out (still \$380 in the account – see above under Balance Sheet). Tanzania Accts \$12,562.29. Tecate Accts \$2,900. Special Designated Memorial Accts \$14,197.83. Total Income \$93,395.51.

A motion was made by Ken Smith and seconded by John Rohr to approve the Treasurer's Report. Voted on and carried unanimously.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Jim Woodruff

Lots of events going on, busy time. Music Festival and Auction, since then, Trunks and Treats joint event with Redeemer plus other places, great turnout at Lake Aires Elementary. This weekend Holly Boutique went well, well organized, lots of people coming. \$5,400 gross, \$1,100 expenses so far. Still money left over last year. Gerhard Nelson memorials all going to replace kitchen refrigerator, Women in Ministry will donate up to \$3,000 to go toward refrigerator. Plan to have it ordered before end of year. Election went okay held in fellowship hall. Thanksgiving service with choir from st. Stephen and Redeemer. Next year Good Friday and Thanksgiving services will be at Redeemer. Advent schedule set up. Living Nativity Creche set up next week. Living Nativity December 17. Need sign up for parts. Christmas Eve schedule 4:00 pm family and 9:00 pm candlelight service. Christmas day service will be held since it is on Sunday. Staffing – Gregg resigned. Stratus Building Solutions was hired, twice a week, currently contract is month-to-month basis. First New Member group October 17, one new member Linda Hetland.

Ministry Team reports

Tanzania update – Ken Smith

Money sent to TZ for Makwema boys dormitory roof. The dorm is coming along. Getting close to ready to add the roof.

A motion was made by Patsy Olson and seconded by Marla Amborn to approve the Pastors' and Ministry Team Reports. Voted on and carried unanimously.

New Business

Tree Removal Update – Ken Smith

Budget Tree Service will cut down the tree on north lawn next week.

Sewer Repair Update – Ken Smith

Roto Rooter – no broken pipe, just tree roots, camera confirmed. Pressure water blaster to clean out entire pipe system, roots removed. Good for a year, need to do annual basis. Alternative insert sleeve for \$20,000. Another access point discovered in parking lot, will need to uncover this access point in the future when re-doing parking lot (Photos were taken of the location). Bill will be around \$4,000 for this sewer issue. Property committee will schedule annually with Roto Rooter.

Old Business

Visionary Retreat Plan – Marla Amborn

Executive Committee will meet with Justin Grimm November 22 to set up schedule, planning. Retreat set up for February. Will be working on a 5 year plan. Is there anything we need to do prior to meeting in February? Justin can let us know what we need to do prior to February meeting to plan for this.

Custodial replacement discussion – Pastor Jim (see Pastor Report for update)

Auction update – Betsy Clark

Final Tally - \$4,734.60 net income. Expenses \$562.51, gross income \$5,297.11.

Holly Boutique Update – Pastor Jim

Net approximately \$4,300 (up to \$3,000 toward the new refrigerator)

Dinner Church Update – Marla Amborn reporting for Mira Stearns

Average 15 people a week coming. Being held at the Wild Bean Coffee Shop in Mahtomedi. Working on an advertising plan. Mira and Pastor Juli working on this. Being held Sundays at 5:30 pm at the coffee shop.

Nominating Committee Update – Betsy Clark

All new council members have been mailed a thank you letter with pertinent dates to include: Annual meeting, Visionary Meeting, Toolkit seminar, Synod Assembly. We have asked them all to send in a short bio of themselves along with reason for being on council with deadline for that December 4.

Review Meeting Highlights:

1. Auction results \$4,734.60. Holly Boutique estimated at \$4,300 net. More importantly, chances to gather together again
2. Stratus Building Solutions, Paige and Shane, cleaning service twice a week Monday and Thursday nights
3. FYI – tree on north lawn will be cut down next week. Plan will eventually be to replace with 3-4 shade trees.
4. Sewer issue has been resolved. Plan is annual cleaning out of the 60-year-old sewer tiles to keep tree roots at bay.

A motion was made by Betsy Clark, second by Ken Smith, to close the Council meeting. Voted on and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Clark