**Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date: 1-12-21**

**Call to Order:**  Brandon called the meeting of the TELC council to order at 7:00 pm.

**Roll Call:** Brandon Rusche, Sharon Gradert, Barb Schuster, Paul Hensch, Luc Johnson, Adam Henning, Sheryl Peters, Steve Onken, Taylor Hibbing, John French, Barb Seivert Absent: Eric Zylstra

**Devotions**: Led by Sheryl Peters

Minutes of Last meeting : Minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes as recorded. Barb Schuster seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Pastor’s Report:**

* Had a Facebook Live service that was livestreamed from the fireside room to all three facilities, Heartwood Heights, Country View, and Sibley Specialty Care. Visited with two individuals with communion in their homes on Dec. 20th and visited another couple with communion on Dec. 30th.
* Two funerals were held in December: Gilbert Petersen- Dec. 5 and Lyle Ohldey- Dec. 9.
* Visited by phone with more families down with COVID-19.
* 100 days of Prayer and Discernment- finished the schedule on Dec. 31.
* Met with Worship Committee to plan for the Christmas Eve service details- served communion by bringing to the people while seated in the pews.
* Tuesday night bible study-"Believe" will continue Tuesdays in February. Will have 5 lessons left. Should be done shortly after Lent starts.
* Sunday morning adult Sunday School will start again on Feb. 7. Planning to use a 12-session set of DVD's by a Lutheran theologian named James Nestigen. Also planning to use them in confirmation.
* I am spending January in Phoenix, AZ. While there, I am planning several activities that I will try online: Confirmation on Wednesdays. Online nursing home service on January 13. Will send Corinne the newsletter article, Lenten schedule, adult Sunday School Schedule, and other information that she will need for the February newsletter.
* Lent will start Ash Wednesday on Feb. 17. Planning a Lenten series that will examine "Pressing Questions" about faith, God, personal faith crisis, discouragement, etc.
* Planning to meet with one student who is in 4th grade for communion preparation during Lent. We will plan First Communion for Maundy Thursday on April 1.
* I am pleased with how things have gone in the last 4 months. I look forward to working with you for another 4 months when I get back.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Checking balance: $80,743,.61

Maintenance: $805.22

Parsonage: $3,048.18

Building Fund: $4,846.71

Security Cameras: $2,075.00

Furnace: $8,719.19

SE Entry Repair: $9,035.34

Thrivent: $98.00

Line of credit borrowed: -0-

Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report was made by Taylor, seconded by Paul Hensch. Motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Worship:**

* Undecorated the church on Sat. 1-2. Greg and Maralee Onken took the tree home and they are cutting the branches off to make a cross for Easter. A 7-1/2-foot artificial tree has been donated for next year.
* Discussion about hymnals: The CDC states that the COVID-19 Virus dies after 2-3 days on hard surfaces. It was decided to stop sanitizing them because the cleaner is hard on the covers.
* Communion will be served Jan. 17 using the disposable kits.

**Christian Education:**

* Sunday School and Wednesday night youth group have started back up again.
* Camp Sunday is usually held the first Sunday in February. Has been decided to postpone tailgate meal until a later date.

**Stewardship/Evangelism:**

* The food that was in the grocery cart at church was delivered to Upper Des Moines this month.

**Building and Property:**

* Leaky faucet on the outside SW side of building. Water needs to be shut off at curb and shut off valve needs to be fixed.
* List of items that need work at church and at parsonage was reviewed. It was suggested to ask if there are any volunteers that would be willing to join a property committee in addition to the members that are on the council, since there is many projects and upkeep that needs to be done.

**Executive:** No report

**Old Business:**

a. **Church Security Cameras**: A $2000.00 donation was made towards the installing of security cameras. Members of the council will meet with Tom Taylor this week to go over the different options.

b. **Constitution:** Still being worked on

c. **Call Committee:** Will meet to go over the surveys that were sent out.

d**. TV/Projector/Hymnals:** Will wait to meet with Pastor Nappe on what is preferred.

e**. Web Page**: Renewed current subscription. John French would be willing to switch it over after this subscription is done.

f. **Annual Meeting:** Sunday, Jan. 17. No meal afterwards. Will meet in Sanctuary after service.

**New Business:**

a. **Pastor Nappe- Jan. Pay -** In the initial agreement- it stated Pastor could have one Sunday off a month. He never took any Sundays off. He is still teaching confirmation online during January and doing online nursing home services. Paul Hensch made a motion to pay Pastor Nappe half of his monthly salary for January of $1750 and to continue the contribution of $500 to the Reaching the Unreached mission. Taylor Hibbing seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

b. **Noisy offering for Feb**. - Taylor made a motion to give the offering to the Sibley EMT program. Adam seconded the motion. Motion passed.

c. **Large Donation -** 32500.00 was donated on Christmas Eve- Adam made a motion to take $25000.00 of the donation to pay the building fund and to take it off the principal amount. Set the remaining $7500.00 aside in a separate account for emergency payments. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion passed.

d. **Church T-shirts**: Barb Schuster has been working with Merricks on a design for new LCMC shirts. They will be maroon and charcoal gray. With the verse: Isaiah 41:10 on the back: Fear not, for I am with you.

e. **Bell Tower**: Corinne was contacted by Don Hartman -800-543-0488 ext. 1005 from Verdin Bell Tower asking if it needs to be inspected. The bell has not been working. The electronic part is out of date. It was decided that it does not need to be inspected at this time.

f. **Lent Service Meals:** Meals will not be served before the Lenten services. Easter is April 4. Will decide as it gets closer if a breakfast will be served.

g. **Suggestion Box**: An idea of a suggestion box was brought up. For example, some suggestions were to have a Sunday to bless your pets, bless the seeds at planting time, etc. The congregation could share their suggestions by writing them down and putting them in a box that will be displayed on the counter in the fellowship hall.

h. **Change sign at street corner:** There is a sign at the corner of Poplar and 9th Avenue that should be updated with the church name.

i. **Memberships from Faith Lutheran**: Discussion about adding members from Faith Lutheran to the list of members.

Council Meeting Jan. 17th after Annual Meeting. Sign up for committees.

Feb Council Prep: Tuesday, Feb. 2 at 7:00 pm.

Feb. Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 7:00 pm.

Feb- treats/teller/communion - TBD

Meeting adjournment motion made by Taylor seconded by Adam.

Motion passed. The meeting ended at 8:50 pm with the Lord’s Prayer.