

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregational Council Meeting
Minutes
March 13, 2017
7:00 PM

Pastor Moehring	Jim Ingraham	Bill Mottett
Cathleen Jacobson	Mat Lewis	Sandra Bocclair
Darren D'Ateno		
Absent:	Jim Schnellenberger	Carol Jones
	Lucas Cochran	
Non-voting:	Paul Quel	Nancy LaVier
Guests:		
None		

Call to Order- Jim Ingraham called the meeting to order at 7:00
There were seven voting members in attendance.

Devotions - Darren D'Ateno read from Exodus

Congregation Comments- none at this time

Approve Minutes (February and Annual Meeting)

Cathleen Jacobson moved, it was seconded and passed, to approve the February Council minutes, as well as the February Annual Congregational Meeting minutes.

Financial Report - Paul Quel gave the report. He noted that the church finished February \$7,000.00 in the red. We are still in the red for the middle of the month of March. Historically Easter offerings are stronger than normal and the expectation is that will be the case again this year.

The undesignated fund balance was transferred to the regular reserves in March as approved by council in February. Pastor asked if a quarterly statement contribution statements will be sent out. Jim I said those statements will be mailed in April, after the close of the first quarter.

Pastor's Report

On March 19, Skylor Addison Cathey will be baptized with Danielle Bosdel assisting.

Jack Carlsen and Spencer Carlsen will receive their First Communion on March 26, and Aubrey Conway will receive her First Communion on April 2.

Sunday Faith Formation- There is one adult class that resumed this past Sunday, and 3 children's classes that are scheduled to meet on the first and third Sundays of the month. Numbers in the classes range from 4-6 children. Some of our children have not attended as yet. There will be no classes on Easter Sunday.

There will be a Breakfast on Easter Sunday led by Jennifer John.

The Youth Center is being well utilized and enjoyed by our young people. The dehumidifier has made the meeting area much more pleasant.

The conference room is also being well utilized and appreciated by many groups.

The revamped library is very good for bereavement counseling as well as some other special gatherings such as Bible Study.

Spring ACTS class has been a huge success for our congregation. We have the largest group (13) in attendance from Central Virginia.

Confirmation classes continue with 7 students. Two of our students, Cameron Miller and Ka'ryne Gaymon, will be ready for confirmation this spring.

On March 26th two new members will be received. A motion was made by Jim I. and seconded to receive Jim and Diane Carstairs to join the congregation. The motion carried.

President's Report

Martina Cathay has returned to her duties as nursery attendant. Cindy Adams has signed a new employment agreement that includes provisions for paid leave time and council-approved holidays. This new agreement will be in effect on April 1. Cindy has been thorough and proactive and a blessing to have working for us.

Linda Keener is planning to sell old choir robes, all proceeds will go to the music resource fund.

An agreement has been reached with Bundle of Joy day care center to use our facility June 8th for a graduation ceremony. The council has approved.

The Congregational annual meeting was a success and obtained a quorum.

Jim is enlisting the council members to be the “pencil police.” The church has special embossed pencils. Jim has asked for all council members to make sure that only the embossed pencils be in the pew pencil holders and that all are in proper condition. The purpose is to ensure consistency and create a positive image for the church. Also, broken pencils can actually be dangerous, especially to children who try to use them.

Ministry Updates

- Finance- Paul and Jim I are completing the transfer of about \$40,000 of our cash fund balances to Thrivent and ELCA Mission Fund investment funds as previously approved by Council.
- Faith Formation (Pastor) – None this month
- IT & Communications (Carol) absent
- Evangelism (Sandra) no report at this time (National night out as a possibility for connections and interest has been shown to connect to Moody Middle School- help students) A congregational survey is being drafted by Jim I. and Jim S. focusing on our area’s demographic information.
- Stewardship (Cathleen) there has not been a formal meeting yet- membership is open.
- Property (Paul) no report at this time. The hallway has been painted. Paul requested that all using the trash area, to secure all latches to prevent critters from getting into the trash.
- Vision/Planning – no report at this time. The survey is to cover both Evangelism and Vision.

New Business

Pastor – A letter is going out tomorrow –Pastor is resigning as of April 16, following Easter Sunday. (28 years) Pastor is transitioning, not retiring.

Jim I. advised that he will send a letter to the congregation with Pastor’s to let everyone know that the synod will help us through the transition process.

Pastor will be here and do his job until April 16. All ministries conducted by pastor will continue. There will be a vice-pastor to help with pastoral care but not as our leader of Sunday worship. Beginning April 23rd we will use supply pastors until an interim pastor is assigned by synod.

The synod will appoint an interim pastor to help guide us through the transition and Call process. The new Synod Bishop will be elected in June and will help our council navigate the formal Call process. There is no specific time table for the transition at the moment, but in some cases it has taken churches upwards of two years to call a new pastor. It is not a process that occurs overnight.

March 19th at 9:30 there will be a conversation with council for those that want to discuss the transition.

A wedding and a baptism that follows his final date has been approved. Pastor does not want a sending off event. Easter is the last Sunday. Communion is the reception which is appropriate.

Pastor conveyed that Christ Lutheran is a congregation and not a pastor – our ministry is together – This is God’s mission and ministry. We have celebrated together and that is celebration enough.

Plan for Sunday – regular Sunday school class – but the meeting on March 19th will be held in the conference room if someone wants to discuss Pastor’s leaving and Jim’s letter. Jim I requested that council members to be available for several additional meetings over the next several months.

A motion was made, with regret, by Sandra Bocclair to accept Pastor’s resignation. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Upcoming Events

- Doorkeepers (Open: Close: Jim I) April 23rd a substitute is needed for closing.
- Devotions (Carol)
- Next Council Meeting: April 10 will be an executive session only. There must be an exit interview with Pastor.

Closing Comments for the Good of the Church – We have been blessed to have Pastor here and we are grateful.

--Nancy LaVier, Council Secretary