

**Christ Lutheran Church  
Congregational Council  
Minutes  
Monday, September 11, 2017**

✓ Pastor Jim Kniseley	✓ Jim Ingraham	✓ Jim Schnellenberger
✓ Bill Mottett	✓ Darren D'Ateno	✓ Sandra Boclair
✓ Cathleen Jacobson	✓ Lucas Cochran	✓ Mat Lewis
Non-voting:	• Paul Quel	
Absent:	Carol Jones	

9 voting members present.

**Call to Order** 7:00pm (Jim I)

**Devotions** (Mat Lewis)

**Congregation Comments** none

**Review of August Minutes** approved with modifications

**President's Report**

- Martina resigned from the post of nursery attendant last week due to work conflicts. There was discussion as to the need to replace the position. Council created the position in the fall of 2015 in response to a perceived need for a reliable nursery attendant to attract visitors and new members with young children. From Jim I's and others perspective, this need never materialized. The council agreed that this is not a critical issue that needs to be addressed at this time. For the time being, a sign will be placed on the door to the nursery stating the rules of the nursery and its availability. A motion was made to have a couple of members on call to staff the nursery as needed when guests request an attendant. The motion was seconded and passed Y=8, N=0, A=1
- Adam Zimmerli resigned the post of co-webmaster due to work conflicts. In the interim, Carol Jones will be assisted by Jim S and Jim I on the webpage. Mat Lewis recommended Greg Faust as a possible replacement. Jim I will contact Greg to determine his availability.
- Nominations for the 2018 council are still in the works. So far, one council member (Darren) has decided to continue on council for another term. Sandra Boclair has decided not to serve another term and Jim Ingraham is prevented by our constitution from serving another term. Jim S. and Jim I are still in discussions with two members to see if they would be willing to answer the call to service on council.
- New/old communication: post cards for special services. Post cards have been sent twice now as reminders of special services. 1) Pastor Kniseley's Welcome and 2) God's Work, Our Hands. The feedback has been positive. The next special service will be for Reformation. We have learned that the post cards need to be mailed by the Tues before to ensure timely receipt.

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- The postcard project has also demonstrated addresses in Shepard's Staff are very inaccurate and unreliable. This will require a massive database cleanup to correct. Sandra suggested talking with older members. She asked the council about approaching Katy about assisting with the clean up. The council agreed Sandra should make the contact.
- We have 2 members in seminary. We have the seminarian fund to help defer costs. Jim I requests approval for the Finance Committee to continue the grant. Danielle Boswell received some monies last year. A motion was made to permit the Finance Committee to prepare grants for 2017. The motion passed 9-0.
- Oct 29 service. Reminder: the Oct 29<sup>th</sup> service will be one service at 10am
- Nov 12 meeting. Reminder: the Special Congregational Meeting has been moved to Nov 12 following the 2<sup>nd</sup> service. Jim I brought up to the council that we never officially voted to change the date. So, to make it official and in the records, a motion was made to rescind the Oct 1 meeting and move it to Nov 12. Motion seconded and passed. Y=9; N=0.

## **Ministry Updates**

### Faith Formation

- Sept 24, 2017: Rally Day between services, sign up for classes, choir, etc
- Confirmation Class orientation: 09/17 @4
- Village Night: moved to Sunday evenings w/meal@ 6:30
- Oct: Reformation month; ordered a "500 Reformation" banner

### Stewardship

- Meeting Thurs, 09/21 @6; any interested parties invited to attend

### Evangelism

- National Night Out: lessons learned
  - nice member turn out, nice fellowship
  - Church has a small view from the road, advertise better
- ESL class: registration Tues night, 09/12 @7
  - Can only accommodate 15 people due to resources
- Blood Drive: 10/7
  - Youth also holding a Brunswick Stew fundraiser for the Houston trip

### IT & Communications

- Website: tweaking
  - looking for ministries to add
  - looking for younger people to comment
  - religious content: Kaley
  - technical component: Greg

### Property

- Men's Group: project to get WiFi in the fellowship hall

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- The kneel pad in some pews are missing screws. Paul will identify and repair.
- Youth library project:
  - In-process, almost ready to order
- Casa de Dios: cleaning the carpets this Sat.
- Paul meeting with JES about humidifier issue in basement
- Front area by porch:
  - 2 options on table for once the area is filled in:
    - 1) use river stone to make a rock garden – council likes this idea
    - 2) put in top soil, and sod
- Facility request:
  - Daisy girl scout troop would like to use classroom space every other Sun 1-2. Motion to allow; seconded, passed Y=9; N=0
  - Garden Club: would like to use the Fellowship Hall 1 Tues/mon from 7-9
    - 2 issues: 1) George Springer's dance class meets every Tues, 2) will they need tables/chairs set up? We do not have the resources. Jim I will go back to Garden Club and bring up issues

Vision

- Mission/vision 5 year plan, volume 2. Will send to council soon; would like to be approved at retreat
- Mission statement is 20 years old – reassess- is this something for the transition team? Sandra suggested that the mission statement should be completed before the transition team works on goals; would like by end of the year
- Church history; last done for 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, no 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary history
- Darren/Sandra submitted their summary of strategic plan; Jim S has executive summary, will send goals and objectives for council to weigh in

**New Business**

Synod Healthy Congregation Program: requirement by Synod

- Teaching communication skills, how to help the congregation; to be strong and focused
- Nov 5, Mindy Reynolds from Synod will come to the service and stay a little after to set up sessions
- 3 sessions at \$500 per session
- Will not be before Jan: Suggested that the annual retreat be one of the sessions

Financial Report

- Currently have a deficit; if current trend continues, could see a shortfall of \$20k for the year
- Normally, the last quarter of the year sees larger offerings, so hope to see an improvement

Finance Committee

- Still working on 2018 budget; objective is to have draft to council at Oct meeting, and vote in special congregational meeting Nov 12

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- Paul and Jim I working on reconciling flower payments

Pastor's Report

- “thank you” for the welcome
- The Bishop's installation; very well attended
- Lakeside Ministerial conference: Presbyterian minister retiring
  - Large facility, but small congregation, sharing ministries
- Richmond Conference:
  - Sat – is the Robert E Lee statue protest on Monument Ave near First English

**Upcoming Events**

- Doorkeepers (Open/Close Mat)
- Devotions (Sandra Boclair)
- Blood Drive: October 7
- Next Council Meeting: October 9 (Columbus Day)
- Closing Comments for the Good of the Church

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm