

Messiah Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2014, 6:00 p.m.

Attendees: Bob Leis, Harriett Elliott, Cyndi Belanger, Bob Follis, Cheryl Follis, Jim Thoreson, Ginny Pedersen, Keith Holm, Pastor Nancy Hanson, Clayton Koss, Dede Maki, Linda Coleman

Guests: Dianne Heapy, Dave Kedrowski

Meeting called to order.

Opening Devotions & opening prayer by Pastor Nancy. Pastor handed out bookmarks for stewardship: gratitude, generosity, abundant joy & commitment. The group is thinking about Wednesday night, September 17th to invite young families and elders to talk about these bookmarks.

Dave Kedrowski presented information on cookbooks, from Morris Press. Example: Soft covered, spiral bound 200 books would cost \$976. Different cookbook covers are available. Presentation was made to possibly raise money for Messiah. Council will discuss this and talk with other members & add it to the newsletter for feedback.

Secretary's Report: Amended VBS from June to July. **M/S/C**

Treasurer's Report: Ahead \$1050 for the year. Chicken dinner cleared \$1000 and was put into the lift fund. **M/S/C**

Pastor's Report: Financials: Window Acct \$2421.02 HHH \$1262.39 Lift Account \$1720.49

Payoff lift is \$11,848.25 (We pay \$1.70/day in interest) Maintenance \$150 Endowment fund Memorial Fund \$31,000 approx. Cheryl will talk with Ruth Carlson about what the memorial fund is for or the limitations are on it. Ginny Pedersen will talk with Jim about the monies for the endowment fund.

The assistant to the Bishop, Laurie Skow-Anderson will preach at the First Lutheran Church in Port Wing on August 10th.

Dede Maki reported on VBS: 50 children registered with 14 churches represented. 5:30 West End Park Wednesday & 5:00 Thursday at St. Louis.

Worship Ministry: None

Learning Ministry: Will meet next week to talk about VBS & the fall youth program.

Support Ministry/Service & Grounds: Bob Follis reported on the windows on the church (ASAP), 7 basement windows (ASAP), upstairs windows, kitchen cabinets at the parsonage,

bathroom window, siding on the garage & 3 windows need attention, front stoop of church (ASAP), west front door rusting out & needs replaced. Trim needs to be cleaned, sanded & painted. Plumbing, carpeting, painting, etc for inside. There is currently no maintenance fund for Messiah. This will be considered for the 2015 budget. Cheryl will do some investigating on the memorial fund & Ginny will investigate monies for the endowment fund.

Old Business: Dianne Heapy met with Tom Waby about BART transportation for Washburn churches, which would cost \$30/hr. Dianne will talk with Tom more about this possibility.

New Business: Marriage/Civil Union Service Use Policy Committee & Mutual Ministry. 2 documents will be used: Building Use Policy & Marriage/Civil Union Policy

Marriage/Civil Union Policy **M/S/C**

"We, the church council of Messiah Lutheran Church, resolve that any member shall be entitled to participate fully in the life of the church, share all sacraments and rites - including marriage and be considered for any staff or lay leadership position. Further, that we the members of Messiah Lutheran Church declare that no one will be denied the services of our church for reasons of culture, ethnicity, skin color, physical or mental ability, age, family situation, economic status, social standing, sexual orientation or gender identity. We welcome members and non-members to enjoy the use of our facilities based upon the approved Building Use Policy."

Background: Three years ago, at the July, 2011 council meeting, the Messiah Lutheran Church Council authorized their pastor to provide civil union services to same sex couples, and in a very short time, we believe same sex marriage will become legal in Wisconsin. In preparation for the change in law and in continuation of what we have been doing already, our Committee is recommending the above policy.

Building Use Policy: Discussion was held regarding the policy. Motion made to bring policy back to the committee for revisions. **M/S/C**

August 12, 2014 will be the next meeting. **M/S/C**

ELCA September 7, 2014 God's work, our hands. **M/S/C**

Closing prayer. Submitted by, Cyndi Belanger

