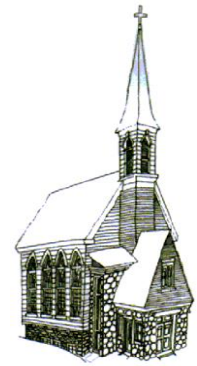




**Messiah Lutheran Church
Washburn, Wisconsin**

*"Living in God's grace, we reach out
to welcome all with Christ's love."*



Council Minutes

Tuesday, May 15, 2018

Call to Order – Ginny called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

Present - Ginny Pederson, Julie Vadnais, Dede Maki, Travis Tulowitzky, Diane Heapy, Kelly Beirl, Linda Coleman, Bob Leis, Cheryl Follis, Jim Thoreson, Pastor Ron Hanson

Absent – n/a

Opening Devotions – Thank you, Julie Vadnais

A Covenant of Leadership – Reviewed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT from April 17, 2018 – Secretary's report approved. Motion by Bob/2nd by Cheryl. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT for April 2018 – Treasurer's report reviewed. Expenditures and income discussed and compared to the annual budget and April 2017. Motion by Travis/2nd by Jim to approve the report. Motion passed. As a congregation, we need to be cognizant of our giving throughout the summer months. Discussed benevolence giving. Important fund raisers are planned for the summer – garage sale, chicken dinner, and salad luncheon.

PASTOR'S REPORT – Pastor Ron reported that he is enjoying his time in Washburn. He is connecting with people in the community. He is concentrating on worship and education. Pastor Ron has conducted 2 baptisms and 2 funerals. He is leading a weekly bible study, book study groups, and participating in GIFT. Synod Assembly will be held June 2-3. Pastor Ron and Connie will attend on Saturday. Toni Pederson and Karen N_____ are Messiah's delegates. A new bishop will be elected. The synod's budget will be adopted, and ministries will be discussed. Pastor Ron reviewed the organizational structure of the Church from the Synod level. As agreed upon before Pastor Ron came to Messiah, he will be attending a conference in Washington, DC at the end of May. The conference is sponsored by Luther Seminary and will focus on preaching & politics. He will not be at Messiah the last Sunday of May and there will be a guest Pastor. Pastor Ron is receiving good feedback for his efforts at Messiah.

MINISTRY AREA REPORTS

- **Heaven's Helping Hands, including ELCA Outreach Grant – Bob L.** – Submitted ELCA grant application. HHH plans to move forward with its summer food program proposal. It will most likely apply for a Thrivent grant to help with the costs of this program.
- **Reconciling in Christ, recommended addition to welcoming statement – Ginny P.** – RIC continues to look for a new chair. A change to the welcoming statement was discussed. Linda moved/Travis 2nd a motion to add the word invite to the statement. Discussion. Linda withdrew the motion. Diane moved/Cheryl 2nd a motion to present the amended statement at the Congregational Meeting on June 3rd for a congregational vote. Motion passed.

- **Stewardship/Finance, General Fund giving – How are we doing? - Cheryl F.** – To date \$136,014 has been raised for Save the Steeple. Considering revising the pledge forms. General fund giving has not increased in 2018 from 2017.
- **Save the Steeple, keeping the Congregation in the loop - Dede M.** – Troy Schmidtke has presented information about the project 4 times over the past week and has one more presentation planned for 5/16/18. Several people have attended these. We will work to keep the congregation updated on the project. Announcements about the project will occur during worship will happen on a regular basis.

Informational Items:

- **Communication suggestions from last Council Meeting, April 17th, progress being made!** Suggestions from April's meeting were reviewed.
- **Coffee Fellowship, progress being made, still need “coffee crew.”** Many upcoming Sundays have hosts, however, there are some opportunities for people to sign-up.
- **Sunday, June 10th – approve change of service to 10:00 a.m. to accommodate a potluck meal and program for Pastor Ron's 50th anniversary of his ordination. “At TEN on the TENTH!”** Discussed. Also discussed that on the Chicken Dinner Sunday, worship will also start at 10:00 a.m.
- **Spiritual renewal and learning while Nancy is on sabbatical - Tuesday text study group, individual and small group studies, Canoeing the Mountains leadership study.** Discussed during the Pastor's report.

New Business:

- **Approve ELCA building loan of \$100,000 in advance of congregational meeting on June 3rd.**
This loan will allow us to move forward at a faster speed on the Save the Steeple project. By completing the project earlier, we will be able to save money on construction costs. Coordinating contractors will be more doable. We will be able to pay contractors and purchase needed materials. The loan has a 4% interest rate and the ELCA has approved the application, pending Council and Congregational approval. This loan is like a construction loan. The monthly payment is \$740. There is a \$850 upfront fee. There is no penalty for early repayment and monthly payments can be recalculated if some monies are repaid early. Travis moved/Linda 2nd to advance this loan application onto the Congregational meeting on June 3, 2018, for a congregational vote for final approval. Motion passed.
- **Request from synod for financial support.**
The synod has asked Messiah to respond to its request for financial support to **Bold Generosity** financial campaign. This is a three-year campaign. Three options were given by the Synod for our response: yes, maybe, and no. Discussed. Linda moved/Diane 2nd to select the maybe option and review at a later date. Motion passed.

Adjourn: Prayer & Blessing – Lead by Pastor Ron. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Next meeting: June 19, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

Opening devotions will be led by Pastor Ron.

Submitted by: Dede Maki