**Messiah Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes**

**October 21, 2014, 6:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Bob Leis, Harriett Elliott, Bob Follis, Cheryl Follis, Tom Murphy, Ginny Pedersen, Keith Holm, Pastor Nancy Hanson, Dede Maki, Linda Coleman

**Absent:** Cyndi Belanger

**Guests:**

Meeting called to order.

Opening devotions by Pastor Nancy.

**M/S/C to approve the secretary’s report as presented.**

**Treasurer’s report:** The Treasurer reported a loss in September. Expenses were about the same but contributions were down. Organ repair bill was 1,200 which will be expensed over the next three months. Note: The organ hasn’t been serviced in 20 years. Misc. Income amount is higher because of money received from Thrivent.

**M/S/C to approve the Treasurers report as presented.**

Thrivent has a new way for members to give money. We need to find out how many Messiah members are Thrivent members and remind them to request donations for the church. Pastor Nancy will invite a Thrivent rep to speak after a future Sunday service ad give a general overview of Thrivent and how members can request money.

**Pastors Report:** A written report was presented**.** An energy savings proposal was received. It will be discussed at the next meeting. We are trying new option for Sunday school. It’s a small group right now, but the trial will continue. Need to remind members that they should bring kids to church and attend Sunday school which is held during the service.

Pastor Nancy requested $150 for improvements to the youth room. **M/S/C to authorize expenditure of $150 for improvements to the youth room. Funds coming from the youth fund.**

**Transportation:** There was continuing discussion about the possibility of having BART provide rides to church. Dianne Heapy was not available for an update. Pastor Nancy and Dianne will have a recommendation for the council at the next meeting. Kids can be 6 or older to ride the Bart. Bart would like to know the day before who will be riding. The Council would like more information before making a decision on this. We could do a one or two month trial. Concerns were raised about long term obligations. If we find after a trial that it’s working we would have to come up with a permanent way to fund it. We have two possible volunteer drivers. Additional questions: What kind of license is needed to drive? What kind of support is needed to help transport people from Northern Lights? What restrictions are there for riders from Nursing Homes? Are there other options or alternatives to BART? If we do a trial it was recommended that it start in January to give us time to get final answers and promote the program. Transportation will be an action item on the agenda for the next meeting. Linda Coleman will email families to see how many kids might be interested in coming to Sunday school if we provide transportation. The council requested a list of names of potential riders.

**Worship Ministry:** No Report

**Learning Ministry:** New Sunday School program underway. We have four families that agreed to teach once every 4th week. We are still experiencing some logistical issues that we are trying to work out. Everyone needs to be flexible until we get the bugs out. Thanks to Dede Maki for her prior service to the Sunday school. Pastor Nancy reported that she is trying youth after school program for confirmation kids. She estimates that we will have 4 kids and always have room for more. They will work on a service project. Confirmation kids will do some baking for Zombie days. Two members have requested help with yard raking. Pastor Nancy brought up the idea of having a craft night for one of the Advent Services. More information to come.

**Support Ministry:** Many projects need to be done. Bob will make some contacts. Nancy continues to call to get the parsonage electrical work done.

**Miscellaneous:** New Computer hasn’t been ordered. There were questions about our Non Profit status. Cheryl will check with the Accountant. Tom Murphy will also do some checking on our non-profit status.

**9:00 am Worship Service Trial**: The October deadline is coming up regarding our 9am worship service start time trial for church. Port Wing likes 10:45 and acknowledges that Pastor Nancy will be late from time to time. **M/S/C to continue the 9:00 am worship service start time trial through the end of the school year (May 2015).**

A 2010 Sears tractor was donated to Messiah from Warren Nejedlo. We will advertise and sell the tractor. No decision was made on where to deposit the money from the sale. It was suggested that a good place for the money might be in the maintenance fun.

**M/SC to adjourn at 8:40pm**

Submitted by, Keith Holm