

Messiah Lutheran Church Council Minutes, January 7, 2018.

CALL TO ORDER: Keith called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Members Present: Bob Follis, Dede Maki, Jim Thoreson, Carol Salminen, Ginny Pedersen, Keith Holm, Bob Leis

Members Absent: Linda Coleman, Travis Tulowitzky, Cheryl Follis, Tom Murphy

Others Present: Pastor Nancy, Diane Heapy

Lutefisk Dinner – The Mutual Ministry committee has coordinated this event for 3 years. We need a new coordinating committee. This is an important fund raiser. Along with the Heavenly Basket raffle, which is held on the same evening, it pulled in \$3016 for the operating budget. There is a comprehensive manual of directions for the event that has tweaked over the years. Some suggestions for coordinators: Ask younger adults, move it from committee to committee – RIC committee next?, put an announcement in the bulletin stating we need new coordinators. This will be discussed again at a future council meeting.

Opening Devotions: - Nancy led devotions and provided treats.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Approve Minutes of last meeting: Motion by Bob L./2nd by Bob F. Motion passed.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Report from the Finance Stewardship Committee – Approve the proposed 2018 Budget as presented by the Finance/Stewardship Committee. There are personnel wage and maintenance expenses increased. Explained how benevolence works in the budget. Motion by Bob F./2nd by Jim. Motion passed.
2. Finance/Stewardship Committee Recommendation for 2017 budgetary expenses: Approve \$1000 of the benevolence budget = \$500 for Luther Park and \$500 for Lutheran Social Services and transfer \$500 from the benevolence budget to Heavens Helping Hands (HHH) to use as they deem appropriate. Motion by Bob L./2nd Ginny. Discussion regarding these recipients. Motion Failed. Amended motion: \$1000 for Luther Park and \$500 for HHH. Motion by Bob L./2nd Jim. Motion Failed. Amended motion: \$500 for Luther Park, \$500 for Camperships to Luther Park, and \$500 for HHH. Motion by Bob L./2nd Ginny. Discussion: Recipients receiving camperships need to be actively involved in helping with Messiah church activities. Motion passed.
3. Update: Save the Steeple Capital Campaign. Sandy Olson volunteered to write thank you notes to donors. Total Contributions to date: \$72,755 already received plus \$7000+ pledged for 2018. There will be a presentation to the congregation on January 21st about the project and congregational members will be asked to pledge for this project and the 2018 budget. We discussed that we need to know how many people pledged, not just the dollar total. We discussed asking people personally and that it is important that those in leadership roles in the church each pledge.
4. RIC Committee Recommendation: Add this statement to our ad on Saturdays in the Daily Press: "Messiah Lutheran: A congregation working intentionally to include people of every sexual orientation and gender identity." Motion by Ginny/2nd by Jim. Discussion: Can this statement be more inclusive of other vulnerable populations? Could there be 4 different statements and rotate them? Could our welcoming statement be placed in Area Report once a month? Are there special advertising rates for churches? Motion passed.

MINISTRY REPORTS

1. Heaven's Helping Hands – Bob Leis reported that multiple people received gifts from the Sharing Tree. The congregational members were great about providing these. 14 food boxes were distributed. Discussed if there is any way to make certain that families aren't receiving multiple boxes through different agencies such as the school and social services. Discussed if this needs to be a concern or is it ok if a family does receive more than 1 box. Also discussed providing directions how to prepare the food provided in the food boxes. Diane will work on typing up the directions so they can be added to the boxes.

Discussed financial donations given by HHH. Do we receive any thank yous/feedback from recipients? Thank yous will be printed in bulletins. Also, a list of donations will be included in the Annual report.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Please see the attachment.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Slate of Candidates for Council seats and offers – Need to identify 2-4 new Council members. A nominating committee led by Ginny will work on this.
2. Annual Meeting – Post Meeting Options - Recommend that the youth lead this effort as a fundraiser. Nancy will ask the Youth Ministry team if they are interested. People felt others would help provide food if the youth asked and took the lead.
3. Annual Reports are due: JANUARY 15th.
4. Any preparations needed for Pastor Nancy's Sabbatical? None at this time.
5. Discussion of adding speakers to the rear of the church: Cost=\$874.99. Motion to refer this request to the Finance/Stewardship Committee by Dede/2nd by Ginny. Motion passed.
6. Donation buttons are now available on the website.

TREASURER'S REPORT: 1. Approval of Year to Date Financial Report – All the numbers for 2017 are not available yet. Recommend that Cheryl present a final report at the next Council Meeting.

NEXT MEETING – A retreat with new Council members and meeting will be held on Saturday, February 24th from 9:30 a.m.-noon. Location TBD. Lunch provided.

CLOSING PRAY-Pastor Nancy led us in the Lord's Prayer.

Motion to Adjourn – Moved by Bob F./2nd by Jim.

Submitted by: Dede Maki