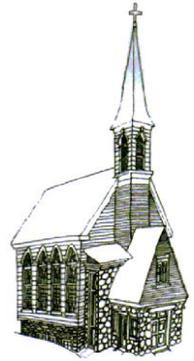




**Messiah Lutheran Church  
Washburn, Wisconsin**

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



**Council Minutes**

**Tuesday, March 20, 2018**

**Present:** Ginny Pederson, Bob Leis, Cheryl Follis, Julie Vadnais, Dede Maki, Travis Tulowitzky, Pastor Nancy

**Absent:** Diane Heapy, Kelly Bierl, Linda Coleman, Jim Thoreson

**Call to Order** Ginny called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** From February 24, 2018 – Secretary's report approved. Motion by Bob/2<sup>nd</sup> by Cheryl. Motion passed.

**Opening Devotions:** Pastor Nancy shared the Send Off Ritual prayers as the opening devotion.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Pastor Nancy shared her recent efforts and upcoming activities.

**MINISTRY AREA REPORTS**

Heaven's Helping Hands – Bob reported that HHH is planning on distributing Easter baskets on Maundy Thursday.

Stewardship/Finance Update & Save the Steeple Update- Dede reported that the loan application has been completed and submitted. Council will need to approve the application if the Church qualifies for funding before funding is accepted. A 3D visual of the basement remodel is being prepared to show the congregation in the near future. The pledge form will be in the next church newsletter. The next committee meeting is on 4/2/18.

Reconciling in Christ Update – Ginny reported that there was a book reading presentation on March 17 at the Walking Together Faithfully Workshop. There was a lot of interest in this.

**Informational Items:**

-ELCA boiler plate recommended constitution review will be at the April council meeting. It will be disbursed to Council members before the meeting.

-Bring ideas regarding how Messiah's communications could be improved at the April council meeting. We discussed some concerns and ideas. The wall calendar of events is missed. More discussion in April.

-See "Outreach and Evangelism Grant Application" due June 1, 2018 – HHH may be interested in completing this.

-Questions/comments on the packet of info from the Feb. 24 council retreat? Discussed the event.

-Walking Together Faithfully Workshops in Eau Claire, March 17 – See RIC report above.

**Discussion:**

Council membership was discussed. Keith has resigned from Council and will remain active on various committees and groups. Council members need to confirm their dedication to the Council commitment. Ginny will contact absent Council members about this. Ginny will convene a nominating committee to potentially fill vacant Council positions. The Council Member Job Description will be shared with potential members.

**New Business:**

1-Continuing Resolution

*Whereas we have council members who work long hours*

*Whereas we have council members who need their sleep*

*Whereas we value council members' time*

*Whereas we support parents spending time with their families*

*Therefore, be it resolved that Messiah Lutheran Church council meetings do not exceed 90 minutes unless by unanimous vote.*

The pros & cons of this were discussed. We need to be careful that we are concerned about the business at hand and not just the time. Ginny and Dede will work on rewording this and it will be presented again at the April meeting. A suggestion was to use the 90-minute point as a check-in point.

2-Discussed Pastor Ron Hanson's comment: "My hope is that I can challenge the folks at Messiah by telling them that since their pastor is doing a lot to renew herself during her sabbatical, they should try to match that by getting themselves renewed and recharged as a congregation."

Pastor Nancy encouraged people to renew their commitment to the Church.

3-From Sabbatical portion of Mission Action Plan, "Encourage congregational members to participate in the Messiah community during this time. (Worship, events, meetings, projects, etc.)"

Discussed. One comment: It seems the more we participate in the life and mission of our congregation, the stronger our sense of belonging becomes. The more strongly we feel this sense of belonging, the more we long to participate. So, in a sense, participation equals belonging, and vice versa!

4 – Discussed Coffee Fellowship. People miss it when it doesn't happen. Ideas included having the various church groups & committees all take a Sunday. Also discussed the pros & cons of serving Coffee Fellowship from the kitchen window. It is up to the host to determine where they want to service Coffee Fellowship.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Reviewed. February was a tough month on the budget. Expenses were up and income was down. Motion to approve by Travis/2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob. Motion passed.

**Adjourn:** Prayer & Blessing – Pastor Nancy led prayer & blessing. Meeting adjourned.

**Next meeting** - Tuesday, April 17, 6:00 pm  
Julie will lead council devotions in April.