

Chisago Lake Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Church Council Meeting  
October 21, 2021

At 7:01 the regular meeting of the church council was called to order by President, Jenni Runte.

Members present: Gary Anderson, Dave Johnson, Jenni Runte, Todd Rivard, Stephane Wendel, and Pastor Steve Cruys. Note, this was a virtual Zoom meeting.

Devotions to the council were done by Pastor Steve Cruys.

**Motion by Dave Johnson to approve minutes of the September 16, 2021 regular council meeting, Gary Anderson seconded. Motion passed.**

**Motion by Dave Johnson to approve agenda, seconded by Gary Anderson. Motion passed.**

Dave Johnson presented the Treasurers report. Council members had not received the paper report prepared by Stephane Wendel due to a technical glitch. Dave stated that income was \$4,100 less than expenses for September, we are down in offering \$6,500 for the year. No unusual expenses during the month. We are \$20,000 in the red for the year with the 3 best months coming up.

**Motion by Gary Anderson to accept Treasurers report, Todd Rivard seconded. Motion passed.**

Agenda item # 6, Guest speakers from Renewal Team was delayed until Rod Strenke Zoomed in.

Jenni moved to Announcements and Reminders. Pastor Taryn communicated that all her personal items and the shed would be removed by the end of October. Jenni asked Taryn about the key to the parsonage. No key as of yet. Jenni spoke about the pew cushions that were still missing after they had been laundered. They are still coming in. Susan Clawson communicated to Jenni since all the cushions were not in church it was much louder and hard to hear in church. Turned out, cushions and covers are piled in the back, Pat and Dale Williams have been replacing them. Have requests for syond appeal and will bring up requests in 3M.

Committee Reports:

3M- Dave reported had pretty quiet month. Several donations and Edward Jones Investments didn't do well for the month. Nothing changed on Gladys Johnson Scholarship, still reworking. Committee still working on financial gift form. Dave thought we should do something with the synods \$100,000 Mission Fund appeal.

**Motion by Dave Johnson that 3M Committee will match up to \$500 for the mission fund drive from congregation's donations. That a fund appeal be published in the bulletin for congregation's donations. Gary Anderson seconded. Jenni made friendly amendment that after bulletin in his motion, it be added in the weekly newsletter for one month. Dave agreed to friendly amendment.** Discussion on motion that notice should be published and deadline of December 1, 2021. Dave agreed to work with publishing and write up the request. **Motion passed.**

Moved to item #6 on agenda. Ron Strenke and Sue Abrahamson reported from work by the Renew Committee on presenting the Core Values, which the council received several months ago. They spoke to the work that had been done by the committee and where the committee and congregation should go from here. Committee wants to present and get feedback from the congregation, this at possibly the fellowship/coffee hour following church service. Committee looking for an endorsement from the congregation to proceed with the Core Values. When will this be done? Possibly before the advent season. Talked about doing this during the Blue Grass service that will be coming up in the future. Lengthy discussion on where, how, and when to present this to the congregation. Final comment, sooner the better.

**Motion by Jenni Runte to accept the report given by the Renewal committee and review by a congregational get together to affirm the core values presented by the Resurrection Committee moving into phase 2 of the call process for a new pastor. Dave Johnson seconded. Motion passed.**

Moved to item #7 on the agenda, Pastors report given by Pastor Steve. Pastor had a grave side service for Lorraine Rusk, John Nelson's sister, several weeks ago. Judy Lindahl is on hospice, home shut-in, pastor has been visiting every week. There are six other home shut-ins that pastor is visiting each week. Pastor Steve asked that members should contact him or the office when someone is housebound so he can make visits to them. Pastor Steve spoke to bulletin and emails where they are getting a large amount of requests for fundraisers involving the church. Pastor said there was a need to revisit the Standard Operating Procedure for these types of requests. He doesn't recommend the council be looking at or fielding all these requests. He will look at a rewrite when some other things are taken care of when time allows. Pastor touched on offering/collection control Sundays at church. There seems to be no one in charge of the collection at the end of church. Prior to covid, there was a definite list of persons that would be responsible to count and put collections in the safe. It was decided that Dave Johnson would be the primary person to retrieve the collection, do a count, and place into the safe. It also was decided there needs to be two person's doing this. Dave will be primary and other council members will take turns assisting him. Concerning the fund raiser issue, Jenni came up with the idea to have the office personnel field non-church facility requests and put them in the bulletin/newsletter in a designated spot. Should be Non-profit, not pornographic, and nothing should advocate non-Christian beliefs. Pastor stated that new media position should be able to decide on these requests.

**Motion by Gary Anderson, seconded by Dave Johnson that Pastor Steve and office personnel would review each request and determined the course each request would take. Motion passed.**

Computer tech, Terry, from Primo Computer Tech, will be coming into the office to secure the office servers and any updates concerning security. Office personnel will be there to let him into their computers.

Personnel: The job description is being worked on for the Media and communications Director position that needs to be hired. Actually three positions will be addressed, Media, Music and Worship, and Office Coordinator. Pastor Steve has been signing time sheets which he is ok with, just so council is aware of this. Stewardship Committee is really inactive right now, nothing to report. Pastor is working with Trinity Lutheran Church to work together with confirmation students for one year. Combine the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders with their confirmation students. We only have four students at this time in the confirmation program.

**Motion by Pastor Steve, seconded by Gary Anderson to approve one year bridging confirmation with Trinity Lutheran Church for a period of one year. Motion passed.**

Property Committee requests to hire Jim Larson to shovel and clear the sidewalks of snow in the winter. Discussion that Personnel Committee should decide, fund, and hire him if they so desire. Stephane needs to know if that happens and the hourly rate they will pay. Also Jim Larson feels that we should purchase a new snow blower to replace the old one at a cost of \$1,200 from a Scandia dealer. Property Committee can use their budgeted funds for the snow blower.

Historical Committee would like to use the space in the undercroft hallway next to the Heritage Room and to use the walls for the hanging displays.

**Motion by Gary Anderson, seconded by Dave Johnson to allow Historical Committee to place display cabinet and pictures in said hallway. Motion passed.**

Renewal Committee: Nothing to report.

Worship and Music Committee: December 4<sup>th</sup> the Bazaar will occur at church. Children's program will be on December 19 during the worship service. Worship service on December 24 for Christmas discussed at the request of Worship and music, services 4&9 PM.

**Motion by Gary Anderson, seconded by Dave Johnson to accept the recommendation of the worship committee that Christmas services will be 4 & 9 PM. Motion passed.**

Old Business:

Financial audit. Dave Johnson reported they received a letter of engagement for the requested audit. That will start sometime in November. Estimate of \$5,000 to \$8,000. Dave will sign the letter of engagement so they can begin the audit. Need three people to be on the Audit Committee. Think about it and come up with three names to serve on that committee.

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Fundraiser Policy and Procedure: Policy sent out by Pastor, already discussed.

Building Use Policy & Procedures for Wedding and Funeral: Wedding that just occurred at the church was discussed in length. Problems that arose with this wedding. No action taken at this time.

Constitution Revision: Barb Wikelius has volunteered to be on this committee. Still need two volunteers. No Action taken.

Ministry Site Plan: Need work group for this subject. Pastor Steve will take the lead on this task.

New Business:

Affirm Email vote for Chisago County request.

**Motion by Gary Anderson, seconded by Dave Johnson to affirm the Email vote that was taken by Council to allow Chisago County Health and Human Services to use the church fellowship hall for training. Motion passed.**

Pastors housing allowance and benefits:

Pastor Steve submitted a request to council prior to meeting concerning the housing allowance which is required to report by the IRS. Also deduct from his earnings funds to be placed into an HRA. Both will not affect the annual pay that he is to receive.

**Motion by Dave Johnson, seconded by Gary Anderson that the church deduct both benefit requests by Pastor Steve. Motion passed.**

Rally Day for Pastor Steve: No action, already done.

St Croix Unitarian Universalist Fellowship request:

Request was discussed with information that Jenni has obtained.

**Motion by Gary Anderson, seconded by Dave Johnson to allow St Croix Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to use the church lower level for their fellowship meeting. They will be required to put things back the way they were when they came and clean the area. They also will not be charged for the use, but can make a donation to the church for the use. Motion passed.**

Bi-Weekly Meetings:

Discussion, no action taken.

Pay Cole Riemer for filling in Audio Visual duties:

A request to pay Cole Riemer for filling in on August 15, 2021 with the audio visual duties.

**Motion by Gary Anderson, seconded by Dave Johnson to pay Cole Riemer for his duties on August 15, 2021. Motion passed.**

Closing prayer by Pastor Steve,

**Motion by Dave Johnson, seconded by Gary Anderson to adjourn. Motion passed.**

Submitted by Todd Rivard

Secretary

11/16/2021