

Emmanuel Lutheran Church – Menominee, MI
Minutes of the Monthly Congregation Council Meeting on May 11, 2021

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Present: Pastor Mark Laatsch, Ronda Pedersen, Matt Vanni, Terrie Porras, Jeff Hines, Linda Davis, Stacy Hansen, Betty Kohrt, Laura Magrane. Absent (excused): Bill Taccolini, Bill Kuhnlein, Jeremy Sallgren, Jim Briar, Boni Nerat-Heckel,. Present to Report: Debbie Villas, Patti Treptow, Judy Raygo

Meeting called to order: at 6:30pm by President Ronda after a Welcome New Members pot luck lunch. Stacy motioned to approve agenda, Linda seconded, motion carried.

Opening Devotion: Pastor Mark gave a reading on Pentecost Sunday (sent by the wind of God) from the ELCA monthly publication “Living Lutheran”. He ended with prayer.

Secretary’s Report: Terrie presented the 4/13 meeting minutes as written. No correspondence received. Betty motioned to accept minutes, seconded by Matt, motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Debbie **1.** Reviewed financial reports. **2.** Looking into new Phone/Internet provider for cost savings. **3.** Looking at new Payroll system for cost savings. **3.** Recommend moving 40K from general checking; 20K to dedicated checking, 20K to long term maintenance fund. **4.** Discussed possible use of church credit card by members purchasing items for church. Pros: members would not need to use their own money and be reimbursed later, would save time/cost by writing one check for itemized credit statement verses multiple reimbursement checks. Cons: Concerns regarding safety of have multiple members using one credit card. Deb responded receipts would still need to be submitted by members for purchases made by card. Linda added restrictions can be put on card. No decision made. **5.** If approved, repairs to stained glass windows would be paid from designated long term maintenance fund.

REPORTS – where we are.

Youth Advisory Council: Laura reported GLOW Youth met outside church on 4/28. They played Frisbee, basketball, sat around the fire and roasted hot dogs, shared a devotion, and talked.

Youth & Family Ministry Director’s Report: Patti presented her report as written (see attached).

President’s Report: Ronda noted committees becoming more active. This is a good sign our church is coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic. **2.** Discussed whether to meet or not in July. Will make decision at June meeting. **3.** Talked about selecting a Long Term Project for council focused on building community culture among our congregation. She, Pastor, and Fellowship committee met and talked about creating a “coffee shop” atmosphere in our narthex. Perhaps July meeting could be a work shop to develop this idea? To be discussed further next month.

Committee Reports:

Finance: See Treasurers Report.

Youth: Stacy – Met and decided to hold off activities until fall. Will meet 8/5 to discuss.

Learning: Patti – In person VBS to be held 7/27-29. She will be calling parents to assess interest and attendance. Looking at organizing a “Goose Chase” (virtual scavenger hunt). There is a cost from organization that arranges this. Will discuss further next month.

Endowment: Pastor – Have not met.

Fellowship: Ronda – Met and worked on 9/19/21 Rally Sunday plans. Henes Park pavilion is reserved.

Human Resources (HR): Pastor - Have not met.

Memorial: Pastor – Met, see attached minutes.

Outreach: Terrie – Honored mothers at Mother’s Day services with pen & bookmark gift set and daffodils donated from Randy Demeuse’s garden. Working on Father’s Day. Planning an evangelism program at Emmanuel focused on getting out and meeting our neighbors. Working with Pastor to apply for an ELCA Open Doors grant.

Policy & Procedure (P&P): Pastor – Have not met.

Property: Matt - Met last Thursday; 1. Church Property Inventory List being updated by Jeremy, Lee Parish, Pastor Mark, and Judy. 2. Met with contractor, he will start fascia-soffit repair work the end of July or first week in August. 3. Continue work on obtaining elevator permit. Hold up due to difficulties in getting needed specifications on new elevator floor slip resistance. 4. Looking at 2 outside windows, leaking due to bad seals. Talked with Esser Glass, will be talking with other companies. Looking for best seal type, 50 yr. pliable silicone has been recommended. Ronda asked if windows should be replaced? Matt will discuss with a contractor.

Stewardship: Jeff – Have not met.

Worship: Pastor Mark – Have not met. Reminded council; 8am and 10am Sunday services will continue until 6/6/21 Graduation Recognition Sunday, will then go to one 9am Sunday service through summer.

Pastor’s Report: 1. Attending virtual NGLSynod Assemble this week. 2. Performing 3 baptisms this weekend; 2 on Saturday, 1 at Sunday service. 3. On vacation 6/14-27. Pulpit Supply will be; 6/20 Robin Gustafson, 6/27 Pastor Doug Schoen with Marilyn Schoen as organist. 4. Weddings being planned, 7/3 wedding will be held in church. 5. Will be performing burial service for Joel Beyersdorf and Donna Bayerl.

NEW BUSINESS –

Gods Work, Our Hands - Ronda - Think about ideas for this year's project, will brain storm and discuss at next meeting.

Stained Glass Windows – Matt presented bid to repair widows around 14th street entry door, one north of and one above the door. After discussion on costs, options, pros and cons, **Jeff motioned to preserve the windows and pay for the restoration; one this year and one next year**, Linda seconded, motion carried. Matt added the contractor asked for 1/3rd down payment (\$1,200) to begin work.

Worship Considerations – Pastor opened discussion regarding CDC recommendation that those fully covid-19 vaccinated do not need to wear masks. Discussed and decided; 1. Hold mask free service outside, the second Sunday of the month, starting June 13 thru August 8, 2. Continue current indoor COVID measures, 3. Next September, if still safe per CDC guidelines and COVID-19 status, go mask free at indoor worship.

CPR/AED – Linda - is Red Cross certified to teach CPR/AED class. She will to do so, free of charge, to council members. This is a 7 hr. class; 3 hrs. on-line and 4 hrs. hands on. Matt sent an email a few weeks ago regarding this and received replies for sign up. He will give those names to Linda. Members can still sign up by contacting Linda. Linda will email class information to be completed first, then we will meet July 18th after 9am Sunday service to complete hands on instruction. Linda also shared she will hold classes for members every 6 months at no charge. Note: This is a knowledge only class. To be certified, there is a fee payable to the Red Cross.

LONG TERM PROJECT/GOALS – See President Ronda's report.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm on a **motion** by Linda, seconded by Betty, motion carried. Pastor Mark closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terrie Porras, Council Secretary