

## St. John's Church Council Minutes – October 19, 2021

**Council members present:** Amy Bazile, Nancy Helms, Mary Hoppe, Ron Krueger, Tom Pamperin, Melissa Pfeiler, Sharon Piastowski, Shirl Tischauser, Kelly Trebus, Wanda Tucker **Also present:** Sheri Fuhrman

Meeting called to order by Kelly Trebus at 6:32p.m. Nancy opened with devotions and prayer.

The mission statement was read together.

**Member Concerns:** No concerns were presented.

**Secretary's Report:** The meeting minutes for September 21, 2021 were reviewed. A motion was made by Amy, seconded by Sharon, to approve the Council minutes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Various items within the September financial statements were discussed, including the monthly giving, loan balances and remaining loan terms, the building fund loan payments going forward and balances in the special funds. It was noted that cups were purchased for the funeral group that were classified as a fellowship expense. Monies will be transferred from the Funeral Special Fund to reimburse the general fund for that cup expense. A motion was made by Amy, seconded by Mary, to approve the September 2021 financial statements as presented. Motion carried.

**Vital Statistics:** The following changes were noted:

- The death of Dwayne Radies
- The marriage of Jeremy Bertram and Shawna Hosking
- The request for membership by:
  - Paige and Oaklynn Hafner and Brian Wegner
  - Justin, Lauralee and Nevaeh Lee Vollmer
  - Ashley Flink and Brielle King
  - Nicole Turbier and family

The process for accepting new members will be reviewed by the Outreach Action Team. Kelly will contact the Bishop for guidance from the Synod. Formal acceptance for membership will be handled at a future meeting.

Oaklynn Willow will be baptized on October 31, 2021 and Nevaeh Lee Vollmer will be baptized on November 14, 2021.

**Old Business:** Items of Old Business considered were:

- Review of COVID Protocol – Kelly provided an update on the process that Exec is using to review COVID numbers and other community activities. The plastic safety shields have arrived and one set have been assembled. It will be up to the person leading worship to determine if they want them up. Ron will work with Brenda to create "Masked-Only" sections in the sanctuary as well as putting the ropes back on the pew ends. Sheri indicated that communication from the Synod states that supply pastor availability may be dependent on the congregation's mask wearing.
- Sunday School Update – Amy and Melissa provided updates on the status of Sunday School, noting there was no preparation done and that they started way behind on getting the program going. Letters went out to all families with Sunday School aged children. The committed coordinator stepped down and there are about eight individuals that have committed to helping in some manner. A Christmas program is being planned for December 19, 2021, and will be coordinated by Kay Tellock.
- Other Old Business – There was no other old business.

**New Business:** Items of New Business considered were:

- Confirmation Update – Amy and Melissa provided updates on the status of Confirmation, noting that Pastor Lois Graper will lead confirmation at St. John's at 9:30 am on October 31, 2021. They also noted that there was no formal program being followed and materials to teach with. Adults in the congregation have stepped forward to assist.
- Nominating Committee – Nancy provided an update on the status of council candidates for the coming year with two committed to serving and one still considering. There are three openings.
- Performance Reviews – Kelly indicated that performance reviews for church staff will occur within the next 60 days and that anyone wishing to provide feedback to the Exec Team should do so.
- Meeting with Pastor Asher – Kelly gave an overview of the transition process that will occur. Originally we were to meet with Pastor Sara and Synod staff together but that was changed to Pastor Sara meeting with the Bishop on her own. Council will now meet with Pastor Asher who leads the Synod's congregation transition process. Possible dates were provided and it was decided that November 7, 2021, at 12:00 pm worked best. Kelly will contact the Synod and confirm and arrange the meeting.
- Pastoral Discussion – The items that are typically covered by a pastor were discussed. They included: worship, confirmation education, Sunday school oversight, home visits, counseling and other special events. Worship and Music Action Team is coordinating worship leadership and assistance while the Education Action Team is coordinating the Sunday school and confirmation. Processes to handle funerals, weddings and baptisms were discussed. Amy and Kelly emphasized our need to keep moving forward, asking for help and assistance and showing appreciation for all that are stepping up to help throughout the church.
- Other – A summary from Denise Pamperin was presented requesting permission to solicit donations to make improvements to the library at church. It was noted that activities to improve the library should be discussed with the Property Action Team. A motion was made by Ron, seconded by Amy, to approve the solicitation of donations to improve the library. Motion carried.

**Action Team Reports:** The following Action Team reports were provided:

- Property – Mary provided an update from Dave (Maintenance) noting:
  - The tuckpointing is done. Areas to monitor were noted. Gutters have been cleaned.
  - The boiler and elevator inspections went fine.
  - The Premier Community Bank employees that assisted with property items were a big help.

Ron gave an update on the status of the cleanout of the shed, noting almost everything has been sold or disposed of and that we received over \$500 in cash donations.

- Worship & Music – Sharon provided an update noting that leaders of worship have been scheduled through the end of November, Linda Mielke is pursuing supply pastors for at least once per month coverage and a meeting for the updates to the sound system are occurring soon. The next team meeting is scheduled for November 15.

**Closed Session:** N/A

The next meeting will be on November 16, 2021, at 6:30 pm.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.