

Zion Lutheran Church
“To Make Jesus Known to All in Our Words and Actions”
Council Meeting Minutes – June 20th, 2018

Present: Mike Bottin, Matt Christianson, Kristi Grindstaff, Linda Isebrand, Adam Jones, Dan Lewis, Steve Marshall, Pastor Andrea Myers, Gary Sandstrom, Melanie Smith, Doug Winter.

Guests: Mary Gilman

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by President Matt Christianson.

1. Devotions

Steve Marshall opened the meeting with devotions.

2. “God Sightings”

Council members were invited to share their reflections about where they saw God at work during their lives.

3. Approve Agenda

Motion by Linda I. to approve the agenda with these changes; second by Adam J. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Thank You Notes

No Thank You notes were shared.

5. Reports: Consent Agenda

There were no changes to the consent agenda.

Motion by Gary S. to approve the Consent Agenda with these changes; second by Melanie S. Motion carried unanimously.

a. **Secretary’s Report:** Minutes were updated.

b. **Statistical Reports:** Council members received these reports via email.

c. **Pastor’s Report:**

i. **Upcoming Events Dinner Church dates - June 21, July 5, July 19, August 2, August 16 June 25-July 2 – ELCA Youth Gathering Trip**

ii. **Membership/Contribution Database:** The current membership software will no longer be supported as of Dec 31, 2018. Mary and Pastor are exploring potential software options. Ultimately, expect to spend \$500-\$1000 to migrate our existing data to a new system.

iii. **Dinner Church:** We had about 32 people in attendance at the first Dinner Church on June 7th and was a great success. As with anything new, we are still learning and making adjustments to the dinner and service. We were pleased that there were several young families that were able to attend.

d. **Finance and Stewardship Ministry Team (*Gary Sandstrom, Doug Midthun, Open Position)**

Gary and Doug convened meeting at 0930 hours at Doug’s house on June 12, 2018. First topic of conversation was in regard to benevolence. We would recommend that if benevolence obligations are not up to date at this point, that we make them so. We seem to have funds available to catch up on those items now and would hope that we will not have to tap line of credit for end of year commitments. A review of the balance sheet dated 6-12-2018 noted that we have approximately \$13000 in general checking and non-benevolence. That does not include the \$12481 in special projects. Probably best cash flow position Zion has been in for quite some time. While reviewing comparative 5 month profit and loss statement, a question arose as to why insurance paid was nearly double from previous year. Is this just a timing difference or have insurance rates increased that much? We also noted that synod mission support reflects an increase of \$1714.54 from previous year. We finished with discussion

- regarding letters to be sent with 2nd quarter giving statements. Will be working on composing that letter yet this month.
- e. **Social Ministry Team (Beth Dostal, *Linda Isebrand and Judy Meyer):** The team met on Monday, June 11, 4:00, at Linda's home with all members present. We opened the meeting with prayer. The American Red Cross will benefit from June's Caring Coins when a total of \$159.28 was collected. Since January, our members have donated \$1,480.94 to Caring Coins' recipients. July's Caring Coins will be designated for Project Promise when we will collect dollars or items for school and personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. We will also apply for a Thrivent Action Team grant. The kits will be assembled during Family of Faith events on Sunday mornings. Linda will write the newsletter and bulletin articles for July. Linda wrote and received approval on a Thrivent Action Team grant. The funds will be used to purchase groceries for our June 23 meal at the Salvation Army. After purchasing the necessary groceries, any additional dollars will be used for toothbrushes and toothpaste. We have 9 adult/young adult workers, with two children also taking part. A \$25 gift was also received; those dollars will be deposited in Special Projects and used during October should additional funds be needed. After reviewing information about World Vision, we decided to add this ministry to our outreach programs. We will invite members to create children's sweaters that will be shipped to Pennsylvania for distribution in America, as well as across the world. Except for regular shipping charges, there are no additional per item fees. We'll write a preliminary article for the July newsletter. We closed with the Lord's Prayer. Our next meeting date will be in August when we shop together for items for Project Promise. The specific date will be determined in late July or early August.
 - f. **Membership and Outreach Ministry Team (*Steve Marshall, Diane Sandstrom and Doug Winter):** Membership & Outreach met on June 12 with Pastor Andrea and Mary Gilman attending. We discussed many different options in dealing with the membership list for Zion while keeping the Church constitution and bylaws in mind. We will work with Mary and start with calls or letters to get it up to date. There are still 13 Moon Dog tickets left to be sold for the July 22, 2018 game. Tickets are available in the office. The first Dinner Church on June 7 went well with about 30 people attending. Membership and Outreach will continue to work with the Worship Ministry Team for the dinner services. We will start to work on the new Action Team worship assignments in September; these assignments will go into effect April of 2019.
 - g. **Building and Grounds Ministry Team (*Mike Bottin, Tony Jacobs and Brett Streng):** The siding company has appraised the fascia on the north side of the sanctuary. They will provide an estimate in a week or so. In addition, they will give us a cost to tie on more down spout into the roof rain gutter system on the west side of the church. The repaired roof resulted in an in active drain becoming active, so that's why one more down spout will be added to the system. Sometime soon we will have fill brought in for the south side, just east of the entrance. It will be used to fill the holes from the bush removal and also to fill a small retaining wall on the corner by the steps. When Dave Carlson, has time we will install some more LEDs in the sanctuary. Also Dave will move the thermostat in the office. We are looking at removing the cosmetic boards in the SW corner of the choir loft. This will free up space for the file cabinets and other items currently stored next to the organ.
 - h. **Youth Ministry Team (Kris Anderson, *Taylor Antony and Susan Gengler):** We were able to work on the SS Calendar for 2018-19 and solidify dates and programs. Rally Day will be held on Sunday, September 9. Activities will include: SS registration, book fair, school kits and a Faith5 discussion. After reviewing the calendar, we have limited our Family of Faith events to October, November, February, March and April. We have also decided to have the 3rd grade Bible presentation on January 6, 2019. Parent/Child classes will be on January 6, 13 and 20. We are

recruiting one youth member to serve on the interview committee for the Youth Ministry Coordinator. We will continue to promote VBS, which will be August 5-9 at Cornerstone. After that program, we will start sending out registration information for the upcoming SS season. Let me know if you have any questions.

- i. **Treasurers Report (As of January 31, 2018):** General Checking \$1,734.82; Memorial Fund \$2,584.88; Building Fund \$13210.84; Non-Benevolence \$800.22; Special Projects \$12,873.52; Overdue Bills \$0.00; Current Bills (due mid-month) \$4,000.00; End of Month Expenses (\$6,000); Line of Credit \$11,401.00.

**Indicates Ministry Team Chair*

6. Other Reports

- a. **Worship, Music & Adult Ed Ministry Team (Karen Granger, *Kristi Grindstaff and Mackenzie Jones):** The first Dinner church was a success, with 32 people in attendance. It went better than planned and they still will expect to plan on 50 people attending future services. They will work on having some kid's activities during the service to help keep them occupied. The sermon podcast is on hold until further notice. And it was made aware that cable access at the city may be coming to an end soon.

7. Old Business

- a. **Update on Narthex Tables:** Linda updated the Council that the Narthex tables will cost approximately \$2,500-\$2,700. The design team will need to meet to make some decisions since some tables stands are currently out of stock. There has been a \$2,000 donation for the tables, but where will the over-run come from? *Motion by Linda I. to use monies from the Memorial Fund, with a cap of \$750, to be used towards the Narthex Tables; Seconded by Steve M. Motion carried unanimously.*
- b. **Update on Youth Ministry Coordinator Position:** The Exec team met last week to discuss preliminary hiring procedures. The position will be published on Facebook, Website, Synod youth Ministry Network and at Bethany/Gustavus/Crossroads. An interview team has been set up going forward.
- c. **Henrikson Bequest:** Money from the Henrikson bequest is still in special projects. More discussion on using the money for debt retirement/line of credit, but that may not be necessary through our work with SAS. Other ideas was to use this bequest as an example and somehow incorporate it into the fall stewardship appeal. Possibly a dollar for dollar match to appeal to the congregation. After thoughtful discussion, it was decided to table any more discussion until closer to the fall.

8. New Business

- a. **Medical Leave detail and planning:** Pastor Andrea discussed with the Council about planning coverage of duties during her time on medical leave. Her current plan is to be away on leave from July 6th thru August 5th, but recovery time, at this point, is an unknown and a 4 week leave may not be enough time to heal. *Motion by and Mike B. to grant Pastor Andrea a 6 week medical leave, starting July 6 thru August 19th; Seconded by Krist G. Motion carried unanimously.* Kristi Grindstaff and Matt Christianson will work to arrange pulpit supply through Sunday, August 19. For non-communion Sundays, options for non-ordained worship leaders will be pursued. Pastor Salim Kaderbhai has agreed to provide pastoral care. Pastor Krista Strum will lead Dinner Church on July 19 and August 2. Pastor Andrea reviewed other ministry areas and pending projects with the Council. Many projects will continue under Ministry Team leadership. However, she has stepped away from her usual leadership with Community VBS and put the new podcast on hold. Office Manager Mary Gilman was present at the meeting to participate in these discussions. The council also discussed summer office hours and Mary's previous

agreement with Pastor Andrea to work a flexible schedule as she takes time to spend with her new grandchild.

9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:41pm.

Next meeting is August 15th, at 7:00.

Faithfully submitted,

Adam Jones, Secretary