

Zion Lutheran Church
1000 Washington Avenue
Cloquet, MN 55720

May 5, 2017 church council meeting

Present: Pastor Loren Schumacher, Pastor Linda Schumacher, Dorine Houck, Rhonda Johnson, Cari Tarrío-Johnson, Jason Southerton, Ruth Jorgenson, Bjorn Anderson, Jeff Wifelmeyer, Sheryl Monette, Jody Acers.

Pastor Loren opened with devotions from Eph.1 verse 4, and commentary of Richard R. Love not atonement, from the beginning, God has given his divine love.

Motion to accept the agenda made by Jody, seconded by Cari, motion carried. Motion made to approve the March minutes with the correction of Dorine's name, motion carried. Cari reported that the finances for the past month were good. The revenues exceeded the expenditures. The snowflake fund raiser and matching dollars totaled \$2,772. The finance committee will be meeting to review the improved generous contribution pattern. The financial report was accepted.

Wandering – Pastors retirement date of September 1st, has brought some anxiety among Zion's congregation. Communication will be key for the health and welfare of the congregation. Janice will be informed of all procedures so she is able to answer questions as they arise. Much preliminary work needs to be completed before a call committee can be established. The synod office will work with "us" to help with the process as it requires congregational participation to establish a M.S.P. ministry profile. A transition time to work out the "nuts and bolts" of our needs is encouraged.

Pastor's report was printed and distributed.

Called To Care – the Cloquet Community Garden is ready for plots to be planted. The committee has been working diligently to prepare the garden. The grant from the N.E. synod of \$895 was received and used to pay for the fence. The \$1,000 from Zion has been used for the other expenses. Kiwanas contributed \$125. An anonymous donor paid for the paver stones, which are set in front of the raised beds for those who are physically challenged. An open house is scheduled for Thursday May 11th, 5:00- 7:00 all are invited and encouraged to come. United Way of Carlton will be handling the "paper-work" for the garden. The applications can be obtained through them in person or on line. The newsletter and bulletins has reminders to collect items for the God's work our hands event this fall.

Christian Education – has finished *SNAZE* until the fall. Eight graduating high school seniors are being recognized at a Sunday church service and gifts to be given. Day camp is scheduled and will be in conjunction with Our Saviors, and Bethesda.

Music and worship - Special music is planned for upcoming services.

Personnel – has not met.

Property – leaky sink repaired, plumber contacted to repair leak under the dishwasher. Carpet for the sanctuary has been ordered and will be installed after the wedding on the 20th. Two back pews will be removed to improve the congestion in the back of the church. Failure to find a contractor to install the remainder of the ceiling tiles has been frustrating. The search will continue. Handicap parking is a concern and a solution needs to be found.

Stewardship and finance – Haven't met since the snowflake campaign. A request was made to have another time and talent event this fall.

Endowment – They met April 29th. The need to make the fund more visible to the congregation, and improve the interest rate. Only the interest can be used for four categories of ministry.

Hunger and Justice – The water walk was well attended. OSL also had several walkers join Zion down to the river. Between the noisy offering collections and the pledges made by the walks enough money was raised to develop two wells!! The fall emphasis may be letter writing for Amnesty International. Question regarding the ELCA response to the refugee situation was raised.

Old business

New Wine – is a Zion ministry in action. A transition board will be established to help review and implement policies that are in line with the synod policies and to be a support unit for this ministry. This will be an ongoing board and has volunteers ready to participate.

Quick Trip money – The next priority will be the handicap parking situation.

Kids Korner – The lease is good until June of 2018. Ruth Jorgenson sees a need for a playground area at Zion for the 8-10-year-old range. Pastors will discuss with Kids Korner. Boy Scout fire ring benches – in need of repair, Pastors will talk with the scouts.

Job description – Youth director – this will be addressed as part of the congregations' discussion on our needs going forward.

Celebration of Service – Jody Acres will plan this for Pastor Linda and Loren's retirement.

Next council meeting June 13th, 7:00.

Meeting adjourned 8:50 - Lord's prayer

