

Zion Lutheran Church  
1000 Washington Avenue, Cloquet, Minnesota  
Zion Council minutes – July 11, 2017

Present: Pastor Loren, Pastor Linda, Dorine Houck, Cari Terrio-Johnson, Rhonda Johnson, Jody Ackers, Ruth Jorgenson.

Absent: Sheryl Monette, Bjorn Anderson, Jeff Wefelmeyer, Jason Southerton.

Meeting called to order at 7:10 by Dorine Houck. Devotions were given by Pastor Linda. She read from the Luther Seminary, *God Pause* devotional, Ps 119:105 “Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path.” God accompanies us on our life’s journey.

Agenda: Motion to accept the agenda with three additions was made by Rhonda and seconded by Jody, motion carried. The three additions were: New Wine, Visitation, Exit Party.

The minutes from the May council meeting were approved, motion by Jody, seconded by Rhonda.

Review of financials: June suffered a loss of \$4,595. Income was less than budgeted. The operating expenses were up and giving down.

Transition wondering: Pastor Gary Terrio will be our “bridge” pastor between Pastor Linda and Loren leaving and hiring a transition pastor. Members of Zion will need to STEP up to fill in where needed during this time of change.

Pastors report: Visiting shut-ins, ministering at funerals, cleaning their offices in preparation for the retirement, transferring their ministry files to the church files as appropriate, preaching.

Committee reports:

Called to Care – The Cloquet Community Garden (CCG) is growing in community, as well as growing plants. The CCG board will meet this Thursday at 4:30. The bulletins have been listing the needed items for the Fall “God’s work our Hands” day of assembling the various kits. God’s work our hands committee is meeting regularly. Two additional churches are joining us this year.

Education – Preparing for Day Camp; August 7-11<sup>th</sup>. Ordered new materials for the fall session of *SNAZE*.

Music and worship – have not met since the last council meeting.

Personnel – have not met since the last council meeting.

Property – New carpet was delivered and laid in the sanctuary. A few adjustments need to be made. An estimate on the cost for additional Handicap parking is being sought. A playground set is being considered. The work on the Memorial Garden is forth coming.

The purchase of a commercial grade vacuum cleaner was approved by the council with the condition that the church treasurer be consulted on the availability of monies to make the purchase. The motion was made by Jody, seconded by Rhonda, motion carried.

Finance and Stewardship - – have not met since the last council meeting.

Endowment – The endowment funds that are currently held at the Member Co-Op are being transferred to Thrivent. The interest from this fund will be used to generate interest in investing in the endowment fund.

Hunger and Justice – have not met since the last council meeting.

**Old Business:**

Visitation – Rhonda would like to establish a “visitation” group. A training session would be mandatory. She will contact persons for this group.

Interim Pastors Duties – Mike Mills will be contacted regarding the pay scale and benefits that we could offer. The Pastoral duties will be determined in part by the number of hours that we contract this person to be on staff.

Exit interview – An exit interview with Pastor Linda and Loren will be August 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00, followed by the regular council meeting.

New Wine – How do we (Zion) support this ministry? This has been an active and healthy youth ministry for years. We must have a Zion coordinator to continue making this a vital ministry. This person would handle the many administrative duties that are involved in this ministry. Monies could be solicited from other congregations to help pay for the coordinator position. More transparency with the congregation is needed regarding this ministry to feel more connected. An advisory group has been established, but needs to include members from other congregations. Other churches need to have some “meat” in the game.

**New Business:** August 27<sup>th</sup> will be the Retirement PARTY for the Schumachers!

The open house will at Zion from 2:00-4:00. Green and Yellow are the colors of choice, cheese and root beer will be in abundance. Please plan on joining this time to wish them the best in their retirement.

Next council meeting – August 15<sup>th</sup>

Meeting adjourned at 8:30, closed with the Lord’s Prayer.