

Zion Lutheran Church – Cloquet, Minnesota  
Church Council meeting – January 17, 2017

Council members in attendance: Kathy Blascyk, Pastor Linda, Pastor Loren, Willie Raisen, Jeff Wefelmeyer, Cari Terrio-Johnson, Gretchen Chelseth, Sheryl Monette, Ruth Jorgenson. Mike Mills was also in attendance. Absent: Jodi Acers.

Called to order: President Kathy Blascyk called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Linda read a daily devotion by Richard Rohr; Do we read the Bible from the perspective of the poor, weak and oppressed or the privileged? “How can we all grow and change together? Lord, give us wisdom, give us love.

A motion by Gretchen, seconded by Sheryl to add LSS meetings and ceiling tiles to the agenda, motion carried.

Mike gave a summary of 2016’s finances. We ended the year in the black. The 2017 budget was reviewed. No significant changes were made from 2016. A motion to accept the proposed budget was made by Sheryl, seconded by Cari, motion carried. The budget will be presented at the annual meeting, February 5<sup>th</sup>.

Motion to fund camperships from the memorial “undesignated” fund was made by Gretchen, seconded by Sheryl, motion carried.

Council president Blascyk thanked the Pastors for their commitment and fine work.

The cooperation and joint efforts with Our Saviors Lutheran church should continue. The hope is to do “something” together once per-quarter.

Pastors report – A written report was distributed. Preparations are underway for Lent, which begins March 1<sup>st</sup>. Sunday service will present “at the Crossroads”, and Wednesday will focus on the 10 commandments, the creed, baptism, communion and the Lord’s prayer. The pastors made a request to have tuition paid for them to attend the Homiletics session in May. Motion made by Gretchen seconded by Cari, motion carried.

Hunger and Justice – Thank you to Tom Anderson, Tony Altringer and Dori Denton for the construction of the outdoor manger scene. A spring emphasis will be on; clean water availability around the world.

Boy Scouts – A new leader has been obtained. The troop will participate in a Spring and Fall outdoor clean up around the church property.

Called to Care – Monthly garden meetings are being held. A fence will be constructed this Spring as well as raised beds for the physically challenged. Plots will be available for planting this spring. LWR kits will be assembled at *SNAZE* on March 12<sup>th</sup>, as well as bandage rolling for

Global Health Ministries. Pastor Loren and Linda delivered completed kits and bandages to the warehouses in the cities.

Education – *SNAZE* (Sunday nights at Zion) will begin February 12<sup>th</sup>.

Worship and Music – will meet tomorrow. An appreciation for the quiet time at beginning of the service during the prelude was shared.

Personnel – two persons have been added; Dorine Houck and Traci Napper.

Property – The ceiling tile project needs to be completed. Volunteers have not been able to get the job done, so the job will be contracted out. A shop vacuum was purchased to be used on the lower level. Motion by Billie, seconded by Gretchen to move ahead with the carpet in the sanctuary, motion carried. The two lower level exterior doors are being repaired or replaced. Billie suggested that we re-visit the need for solar panels for an energy/ fuel savings. The need for handicap parking is paramount. A design plan will be sought and then presented to the council.

Stewardship Finance – A February “snow-flake” campaign to raise funds for the general fund will be implemented.

Old business – An updated list of memorial gifts was distributed. The list will be available in the office for anyone wishing to donate. Technology was a new category added.

No new action on the Kwik trip money. The storage cupboard is on hold until the ceiling tiles project is completed. A meeting with LSS is scheduled soon, regarding meeting space.

Nomination for the council are being sought.

New Business – The policy of the church to help someone seeking assistance is to refer them to Salvation Army or the police. A #211 number is available to call which connects to Social Service agencies. #211 brochures will be made available. The Pastors are looking at a possible retirement date later this year.

President Blascyk thanked the council for their; leadership and dedication.

Motion to adjourn by Gretchen, seconded by Cari, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Ruth Jorgenson, secretary

Annual meeting; February 5<sup>th</sup>

