

Zion Lutheran Church
1000 Washington Avenue
Cloquet, MN 55720

June 26, 2017 church council meeting

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

President Sheryl called the meeting to order at 7:06. Devotions were given by Pastor Loren. He read from James 1:19, we are called to listen. Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, "He who no longer listens to his brother, no longer listens to God." The world is divided, we need to listen to points of view that may be different than our own. Zion is called to listen, especially in the upcoming months.

Dorine made the motions to approve the agenda as presented, Bjorn seconded the motion. Motion carried. Jason moved to approve the May 9th council minutes, Dorine seconded the motion carried.

Cari summarized the financial report; May was not a good month, expenses exceeded revenue. The council accepted the report as presented.

Wondering: Reflecting on the presentation by a NE MN ELCA representative regarding the retirement of our pastors, the transition period and the call, the synod is available for help, but it will take time and work by the congregational members. The congregation will need to step up and help carry the load. Loren's position on the Inter Faith board will need to be filled. That board meets the 1st Tuesday of the month at 4:30. Columbarium committee meets twice a year.

Committee Reports:

Called to Care – Announcements have been running in the newsletters and bulletins to start gathering materials for the fall God's work Our hands event, to assemble the many care kits. The Community Garden on Zion's property is going well. Many plots have been taken by community members as well as Zion members. The water is being collected off the church roof and stored in three water troughs.

Christian Education – Currently working on *SNAZE* for this fall and Day Camp this August.

Music and Worship – assembling a profile of Zion's worship style for the transition report.

Personnel – Reviewed applications for a part time janitor for the summer months. Beth Nelson was hired for a portion in the upstairs areas. Brandi Nelson will be available for "fill-in" as needed. Youth director position was tabled for a later date.

Property – a list of contact numbers of property members and vendors is needed in the office for contacting in time of need. The old carpet in the Sanctuary is being removed. The new carpet will be

installed this week. The two back pews were removed to ease the congestion in the back of the sanctuary. The question was raised regarding the need for handicap parking, Loren indicated it is on the agenda.

Stewardship and Finance – no meeting

Endowment – reviewing the options available with local financial institutions

Hunger and Justice – The *Walk for Water* was very successful! Approximately \$7,500, enough to complete three wells! The fall campaign will be working with Amnesty international's letter writing program. The question was raised about the refugee situation. It will be put on the agenda.

Old Business:

Next steps for the call process – exit interview questions and schedule. Paperwork, paperwork and more paperwork. It seems there are several forms that need to be completed. The exit interview of Loren and Linda will be at the August council meeting. July council meeting will focus on the needs of the interim and the materials that will be needed for that position.

New Wine – The advisory board met and reviewed the financial records. When the current tour is completed they will see where the ministry sits, financially. It is recommended that the amount needed to start tour be bumped up from \$8,000 to \$10,000 to keep up with rising costs. Also, ministries savings must be increased to cover the expected cost of new sound equipment. Ideas for more fund raisers that include other churches need to be looked at. The question of support by and from Zion was raised. Do we want to continue to support/sponsor this ministry? If so, we need people to get behind this ministry with time, talents and energy.

Kids Korner – A two-year lease was signed. The lease agreement will be presented to the school board for their approval. With the continued use of our facility by Kids Korner, more outdoor play equipment is needed. It was suggested the property committee check into possible playground equipment.

Celebration of service - The celebration of service for Loren and Linda is set for August 27th.

LSS – Funding for a facilitator is being secured by LSS, when the money is in place the support group will set a time for weekly meetings at Zion.

8:15, Motion to adjourn was made by Cari, seconded by Rhonda, motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next council meeting will be July 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Ruth Jorgenson, secretary