

Zion Lutheran Church – Cloquet, Minnesota
Church Council meeting – October 11, 2016

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

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

Devotion were given by Pastor Loren. He read from Ephesians 2:8, we are saved by GRACE. We will be celebrating in the coming year the 500 anniversary of the reformation.

Approval of minutes: Gretchen made the motion to approve the September Council minutes, Cari seconded the motion carried.

Approval of financial report: Willie gave a summary of the financial report, September was a “good” month. The deficit is at \$3,600. Cari moved to accept the financial report, Jeff seconded, motion carried.

Wondering about Discipleship: The council met in September for a mini-retreat. The book that was used was “Shift” by Mark E. Tidsworth. Thank you to Blascyk’s for hosting the retreat in their home. To follow up on the retreat a brief discussion was had concerning “discipleship” was held at the council meeting. We are called to be disciples of Jesus Christ. How do we move our thinking from membership to discipleship? Words matter. The five rules of life could be published in the newsletter and posted in various locations in the building. The idea of discipleship needs to be incorporated in the Sunday evening Faith Formation as well as the Sunday morning service.

Pastor’s Report: The report was printed and distributed. God’s work our Hands was a positive experience shared by the three congregations. Looking for the possibility of adding more congregation’s involvement in 2017. Pastor Loren shared his excitement over the great reception and participation on Sunday night program “*Snaz-e*”. Meat ball supper served over 675 meals to the community. Thank you for all who participated.

Committee Reports:

Called to Care: The Cloquet Community Garden (CCG) is located on the South East side of Zion on our property. The soil has been worked this summer to prepare it for planting in 2017. A monthly meeting will be scheduled this winter to prepare for next years season. A work day has been schedule for October 22, 9:00 a.m. to put up a temporary fence for winter. The 55 pillowcase sundresses that we have made, have been shipped to Ezekiel Lutheran church in River Falls Wisconsin. The trip to Haiti is planned for the end of October to distribute over 500 dresses. God’s work our Hands was very successful in assembling Lutheran World Relief Kits. Pastor Loren and Linda delivered 65 baby care kits to the LWR warehouse in St. Paul. They will be delivering the 38 school back packs, 43 personal care kits this month. These are on going projects.

Christian Education: The report was distributed. *Snaz-e* program was developed and implemented on Sunday evening from 4:00-6:00. The two sessions that have been held were very well attended and received. Confirmation of seven students will be October 23rd. The God's work our hands event was very well attended by all three congregations: Zion, Queen of Peace and Our Saviors. Many thank you's from the elderly who's projects were tackled by the participants. The City of Cloquet and the City of Carlton were appreciative of the work done for the two cities. A big thank you to all participants. Let us all continue we are Called To Serve!

Music and Worship: Will be meeting this week.

Personnel – no report

Property: Jeff reported the ceiling tiles will be installed in the coming weeks in the basement rooms. The NEW parking lot lights have been installed and are *brilliant*, thank you! The basement doors are being worked on. Twelve loads of brush were removed from the tree trimming. The air conditions have been removed for the season. An outdoor work list has been established for volunteers to tackle. The list will be posted on the bulletin board.

Stewardship and finance: The stewardship ministry team is looking at ways to make our contributions more convenient. With all the new technology, our financial contributions could be upgraded to several methods. The fall stewardship drive will be in November. A service auction is being organized for this coming month.

Old Business

Money we are tithing: A gift of \$1,000 was given toward the “barn-yard” campaign. Many suggestion were made for the remaining \$5,900 that is to be tithed from the Kwik Trip money: Haiti storm recovery, Local food shelf, LSS teen shelter, CCG, Out-Reach center, CHUM, Damiano Center. Council members will be contacting these various agencies to see what the current “need” is.

Matching \$5,000 suggestion: It was suggested that this grant be implemented this winter. This grant will give an opportunity for each individual to share from their blessings.

Storage needs for Call to Care ministry: Once the ceiling tiles are removed from the corner of the parish hall more measurements and ideas can be addressed for this concern storage concerns.

Silent Auction dates: The items to be auctions are being received and recruited.

Endowment Fund update: Dorin H. is working on this and will report to the council and will have changes ready for the annual meeting.

Outside projects update: A suggested list has been established and will be posted.

Defibrillator: Motion made by Gretchen, seconded by Cari to purchase a defibrillator with Kwik trip money, motion carried with seven yea, one no.

New Wine Leadership: A director and music person have been attained for next years production but leadership is needed from Zion. A suggestion that the Zion leadership be a “team” rather than an individual. Pastor Loren, Pastor Linda and Laura are working on a “guide” of the tasks that need to be addressed for this leadership team. An opportunity to work with a wonderful ministry!

Stations of the Cross: The crosses have been attended. The posts will be installed in our back yard property this fall and the crosses will be put in place for Lent. Additional work on the paths behind the orchard are needed for the stations.

New Business:

Zion Facility Handbook: A motion was made by Jeff seconded by Cari to accept the handbook as written. Motion carried.

Hours of office manager: A motion to increase the hours for the office manager during the weeks of: meatball supper, Christmas and Easter, by an hour a day for the week. This would total and additional 15 hours a year. The motion was made by Gretchen, seconded by Cari, motion carried.

LSS meeting November 1st: LSS has request a two hour meeting with the council to discuss the need for a safe meeting place for LGBTQ high school “kids”.

Advent booklet: Kathy B. would like contributions from the council and other “disciples” for an Advent book. She requested a “short” faith story and or Christmas memory and picture. The stories are needed ASAP, but no later then the end of November.

Sound System: is on life support! A new system is being investigated but the current system needs immediate help. The current system is close to 20 years old. Ray H. has contacted someone to look at the current system to see what can be done, immediately. The electrical system in the sanctuary and narthex would be investigated at the same time that a new system would be investigated.

Next council meeting – November 15th, 7:00 (change of date because of elections).

Motion to adjourn made by Gretchen seconded by Cari, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:35. Lord’s Prayer – Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Secretary – Ruth Jorgenson