

## St. John's Congregational Council Meeting

May 16, 2022, 7:00 P.M.

**Members Present:** Wayne Beavers, Karen Bentley, Shirley Blake, Aaron Clark, David Clark, Doug Cress, Michael Grimm, Kathy Myers, Gary, Smith, Paul Wittenberg, Pastor Patti Morlock

**Members Absent:** Warren Althoff, Sky Singleton, Pastor Seth Jersild

President Aaron Clark called the May Council meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. Secretary Karen Bentley passed around a sign in sheet for attendance. Pastor Patti Morlock opened the meeting with a devotion on Psalm 67. She helped us think about the "Why?" of blessings and "Who benefits?" from blessings. She also suggested we draw a timeline containing when we received specific blessings to help us determine our purpose. Reading Psalms (or any other part of the Bible) out loud can help with focus and concentration on what God is trying to tell us in His Word.

**Approval of the Minutes from the March meeting:** Council members were reminded that every member needs to read the emailed minutes and respond to Secretary Karen Bentley with their approve of the minutes each month. Last month's minutes were approved by a majority of the Council members.

**Senior Pastor's Report:** Pastor Seth Jersild was not able to attend the meeting and sent a written report that was read by President Aaron Clark. Accessibility Team update from the Construction Team. The team has requested bids from three companies besides McKnight. The three other companies declined to bid on the project. Initially the team did receive three bids on the project. The congregation unanimously approved the plan as submitted by McKnight at the April Quarterly Meeting. President Aaron Clark made a motion to waive the requirement of the adopted Policy Regarding Securing Bids for Major Projects. Kathy Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**Associate Pastor's Report:** Pastor Patti Morlock reported that the season of Easter is almost over. The choirs will start their annual summer break at the beginning of June. This summer Mark Meuser, Director of Music will fill our worship services with hymns that members of the congregation request to sing.

Pastor Patti continues to teach Congregation Care class with 10-15 people attending regularly. She has created a Congregational Care book to help guide this ministry.

The Ohio Mission Region comprising five districts and 143 congregations met at the Oromo church on Saturday, May 7 for their annual convocation. During this time of outstanding worship a pastor was ordained to serve that Oromo church.

As the chair of the NALC committee of Ordination Under Special Circumstance, Pastor Patti is continuing with interviews of candidates. The team interviewed seven people over the course of three days. Thirteen applications have been received. The remainder of the candidates will be interviewed at a later date. There are a total of 27 candidates working through the process at this time.

The NALC has developed a program through the NALS for candidates to earn a Lutheran Diploma. The 30 hours of coursework include instruction in: Preaching, Old Testament, New Testament, Greek, Hebrew, Lutheran Theology, Ethics, and Pastoral Care.

Pastoral Care-Pastor Patti asked for prayers for Erle Taylor and Howard Linder.

**Financial Report:** Treasurer Kathy Myers emailed the April Financial Statement and the Weekly Contribution Summary to Council members. She highlighted the difference between Easter 2021 when 314 people attended worship and Easter 2022 when 878 attended worship. Repair work continues on the southeast wall of the sanctuary. Members continue to contribute to the Organ & Renovations Debt Reduction Fund. Those funds will be used for the sanctuary wall repair work. Dave Clark made a motion to approve the Financial report. Michael Grimm seconded the motion. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

**Membership Report:** President Aaron Clark made a motion to accept the following into membership through the Rite of Confirmation on Sunday, May 22, 2022: Dylan Allman, Bella Castle, Eva Harris, Matthew Johnston-Kline, Matthew Little, James McFarland, and Grace Nixon. Wayne Beavers seconded the motion. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

### **Old Business-**

**Accessibility Team Update-**See Pastor Seth's written report and President Aaron Clark's motion.

**Technology Team Report:** Tabled until the June meeting

**Property Team Report:** Tabled until the June meeting

**Internship Team Report:** Pastor Patti reported that things are progressing and the full funding for sponsoring an intern has been raised. We are waiting for a match with an internship candidate. There is no set timeline for this match to occur.

**Boy Scouts' Shed:** Michal Grimm made a motion that Council donate an additional \$1500 from the Memorial Fund-Unrestricted Savings to the Boy Scout troop sponsored by St. John's toward the purchase of a new shed to replace the one currently on St. John's property. Doug Cress seconded the motion. Discussion followed. President Clark called for a voice vote. The vote on the motion failed unanimously.

**Audit Team Report:** Tabled until the June meeting

### **New Business-**

**Congregational Concerns:** Pastor Patti will check with Mike Esposito about having carpet installed on the main steps leading up to the altar.

Shirley Blake reported that all beds around the church are being edged and mulched this week. Trees along the east driveway were trimmed last Saturday. One additional tree behind the garage will be trimmed this week.

**Council Members sharing and updates:** Each member had an opportunity to give an update on what's going on in his/her life and state any prayer requests.

**Reminder:** President Clark reminded members that next month's meeting will be on the **fourth** Monday of the month, June 27. There will be not meeting in July.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:03 P.M. following The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Bentley, Secretary

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Review the Minutes and respond to Secretary Karen Bentley within 48 hours with approval/additions/corrections. (All Council members)

Prayerfully consider completing and returning a pledge card to support the proposed building addition if you have not done so already (All Council members)

Pastor Patti will check with Mike Esposito about getting carpet installed on the main steps leading up to the altar.

Aaron Clark will check with Cynthia Hutson to see if she will serve on the Audit Team. A total of three members are needed for the team.

Set guidelines for approving improvements to the church property (?)

NEXT MEETING: Monday, June 27, 2022 at 7:00 P.M in Rooms 103 & 104 in the FLC.

\*\*\*Let President Aaron Clark know if you are unable to attend.