

## St. John's Congregational Council Meeting

June 27, 2022, 7:00 P.M.

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

**Members Absent:** David Clark, Sky Singleton

President Aaron Clark called the June Council meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. Secretary Karen Bentley passed around a sign in sheet for attendance. Pastor Seth Jersild opened the meeting with prayer followed by a devotion on Luke 18: 18-32. Pastor Patti Morlock read the passage aloud. Discussion followed about the ruler and his questioning Jesus about inheriting eternal life. Pastor Seth reminded us that we start from nothing every single day. We can give everything we have away and have Christ which is far greater than all earthly possessions.

**Additional Agenda Items:** President Aaron Clark added one item under New Business-Accountable Plan

**Approval of the Minutes from the May 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 updated Council on several items. Accessibility Project updates-Fundraising Team lead by Mistie Clark is doing a great job. This week's Bake Sale was very successful. The Funding Team will be waiting until late August/early September to send out a letter and pledge cards to members of the congregation. This team is also planning a series of Temple Talks and a specific Sunday to return the pledge cards. Ike Stage and Steve Johnston have had preliminary conversations with lenders. Jan Miller has prepared a history of the church's finances to share with possible lenders. The Construction Team is meeting with McKnight this week to sign an agreement to proceed with pre-build planning. Reminder that we will not proceed with the project until we have \$700,000 in hand.

Gary Pecuch is entering a new phase in his ministry. Pastor Seth will be meeting with the Youth staff to review our current confirmation program and staffing. They will modify our programing in this area as lead by the Holy Spirit.

Technology Team planning for the sanctuary needs attention. A new camera was purchased for the Contemporary service and those services should be live streaming now. Funds are still available for equipment. The team will look into changing our service provider in the new year. Costs are expected to increase.

Property Team-we are moving toward determining the big picture for caring for our church inside and outside. Pastor Seth will continue to look at this situation and have suggestions this summer.

**Associate Pastor's Report:** Pastor Patti Morlock reported that the Internship Team was given the name of a candidate that is in the military full time. As a SEOMD, our goal is to help with the pastoral supply shortage throughout the NALC. We are looking for an intern that would be available to fill a role as a congregational pastor. We will continue to pray for the person that God will send to be our intern.

A Women's Retreat is being planned for the weekend of March 17-19, 2023. To keep costs within reason it will be held here at church. A speaker has already been arranged. Other arrangements are in process.

Dean Jeff Morlock just sent out an updated Pastoral Supply List and Compensation Guidelines. These came from David Wendel of the NALC.

As the chair of the NALC committee Ordination Under Special Circumstance, Pastor Patti will be interviewing candidates October 10-12. The team has already interviewed seven people. They were planning to interview an additional six people in the fall. That number has risen to 13. Praise the Lord for sending workers into the harvest!

Pastor Patti continues to teach Congregational Care classes. The most recent topic was Boundaries in caregiving. Classes have moved from Saturday mornings to Tuesday mornings which seems to be a better fit for the group's attendees.

**Financial Report:** Treasurer Kathy Myers emailed the May Financial Statement and the Weekly Contribution Summary to Council members. There is now a line on the budget to show contributions to the Accessibility Project. Additional funds will be transferred into that account when the market is more favorable. In May we made repairs to the AC unit in the FLC and purchased new AC units for the nursery. These two items cost almost \$12,000. Repair work continues on the southeast wall of the sanctuary. Paul Wittenberg made a motion to approve the Financial report. Michael Grimm seconded the motion. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

Treasurer Kathy Meyers made a motion that the Navigators Memorial Restricted One-Time Account in the amount of \$203.38 be moved to the Memorial Fund Unrestricted. Shirley Blake seconded the motion. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

Kathy made a motion to consolidate the Prayer Shawl funds of \$231.65 and the Respect Life funds of \$50 currently in the Memorial Restricted One-Time Account into the Benevolence Fund. Pastor Patti Morlock seconded the motion. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

Kathy made a motion that we approve the annual renewal of the following funds: Sarah Circle & Elizabeth Circle, Bereavement Dinner Ministry, Youth Designated Fund, Bed Brigade Ministry, and Beacons. Doug Cress seconded the motion. The vote to approve the motion passed unanimously.

**Membership Report:** Pastor Seth Jersild made a motion to approve the following-

Members Incoming: Janice Gorsuch transfer from St. Philip Lutheran, Mt. Dora, Florida.

Outgoing Members: Jonathan Hodge and daughters, Susan and Megan-Transfer to St. John Lutheran, Cardington, Ohio. Jacob Funk-moved to Florida-no transfer, remove from rolls.

Warren Althoff seconded the motion. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

#### **Old Business-**

**Accessibility Team Update-**See Pastor Seth's report

**Technology Team Update-**See Pastor Seth's report

**Property Team Update-** See Pastor Seth's report

**Internship Team Update:** See Pastor Patti's report

**Audit Team Report:** President Aaron Clark reported that the Audit Team will be lead by Tony Bennett. Cynthia Hutson will also serve on the team. Council needs to appoint a third person to the

team. Criteria: the person cannot be a member of Council or the Finance Team. Please give any suggestions to President Aaron Clark. The team is planning to conduct the annual audit this fall.

### **New Business-**

**Congregational Concerns:** Pastor Patti reported that Mike Esposito is looking for a match to the carpet in the sanctuary to install on the main steps leading up to the altar. (Thursday, June 30)

Mike is also arranging for the floors to be stripped and waxed.

Shirley Blake reported that the area around the poles/wires in the parking lot will be cleaned and mulched in July along with a few additional trees being trimmed. The Landscape Team will be asking for Gardening Angels to commit to adopting areas as in the past to keep them weeded and watered as needed.

**Accountable Plan:** Treasurer Kathy Meyers explained that Tony Bennett has developed an Accountable Plan that we need to have on file for tax purposes. Nothing about the way we reimburse people is changing, this is merely a formality for the IRS. Michael Grimm moved that we adopt this Accountable Plan. Doug Cress seconded the motion. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

**Council Members Sharing and Updates:** President Aaron Clark announced that Sky Singleton has resigned from Council. We will fill her position at the Annual Meeting in 2023.

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

**Reminder:** There is no meeting scheduled for the month of July.

Quarterly Meetings will take place the weekend of July 16-17 at all services.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 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)

Meet with Youth Staff to determine fall plans for confirmation (Pastor Seth, Laurie Pecuch & Diana Imbrock)

Continue updates to the technology in the Sanctuary, Contemporary worship, and throughout the building (Pastor Seth & Technology Team)

Appoint a third member to the Audit Team (Council)

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

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, August 15, 2022 at 7:00 P.M in Rooms 103 & 104 in the FLC.

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