

St. John's Lutheran Church, Council Meeting, November 14, 2023
Approved at the December Meeting

Belonging to Christ, we are a family of faith, **Encouraging** spiritual growth, and **Connecting** others to lasting hope.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Phil Henneman at 6:28 p.m.

Those present: Pastor Bob Friese, Phil Henneman (President), Karen Gunderson (Vice President), Barb Esanbock (Secretary), Stacy Burr (Stewardship), Tom Boyer (Property), Beth Keehr (Education), Melanie Wentlandt (Social Concerns)

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Karen Gunderson, second by Tom Boyer, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Motion by Tom Boyer, second by Beth Keehr, to approve October minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion by Karen Gunderson, second by Stacy Burr, to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Bob provided a written report. He will be gone Sunday, November 19th and we will have a guest pastor; Emmaus Church will host the Thanksgiving Eve service at 7 p.m.; December 3rd is the 1st Sunday of Advent; and looking ahead, Ash Wednesday will be February 14th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STEWARDSHIP: Chair: Stacy Burr

- We were starting to work on time and talent sheets. We discussed how and when to get these out to the congregation; we will likely wait until the first part of next year.

PROPERTY: Chair: Tom Boyer

- Furnace and air handler filters have been replaced; lights above the doors to the sanctuary have been replaced; the furnace that was out has been repaired.

WORSHIP: Chair: Ella Esanbock

- Nothing new to report.

EDUCATION: Chair, Beth Keehr

- Nothing new to report

SOCIAL CONCERNS: Chair: Melanie Wentlandt

- A blood drive was held. The Giving Tree has been started for Christmas.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Background Checks:** Youth volunteer background checks have been ordered.
- **Ministry Site Profile:** Phil is working on getting this updated.
- **St. John's Treasurer:** We are still looking for a treasurer. We discussed adding another person to the checking account to be able to sign checks until we get a treasurer. Motion by Mel Wentlandt, second by Barb Esanbock, to add Karen Gunderson as a signer to the checking account.
- **St. John's Parish Council Member:** Karen agreed to fill the spot until the annual meeting. Motion by Tom Boyer, second by Stacy Burr, to appoint Karen Gunderson as a St. John's representative to the Parish Council.
- **Grace Place:** A sign-up sheet was passed around at the Sunday service. St. John's is responsible for one Tuesday every quarter.
- **Altar Guild:** A few congregation members have shown an interest in being trained.
- **Christmas Decorating:** The Sunday after Thanksgiving we will decorate St. John's after the service at Spring Lake. Council members are providing soup, sandwiches, bars/cookies, and apple cider
- **2024 St. John's Council Elections:** The Nominating Committee will need to be contacted, and spots filled if needed; we need two outgoing Council members and two other congregation members.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Insurance Policy Update:** Barb went over the changes to the 1/1/24 renewal policy. Arneson Insurance Agency is obtaining alternate proposals which we will have prior to the December meeting.
- **Building Exterior Resurfacing:** Estimates are being obtained by Tom for repairs to the church exterior.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, December 12, 2023; joint council meeting at 6:00 p.m. followed by St. John's Council.

ADJOURN: Motion by Karen Gunderson, second by Tom Boyer, to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. Motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Barb Esanbock, St. John's Council Secretary.