

**First Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2021 6:30 p.m.**

“Renewed by Christ in Word, water, bread and wine, we serve our community and the world”

Members Present: Bill Kautt, Pastor Bill Nelsen, Garrett Paul, John Sylvester, Cindy Nadeau, Nancy Timm, Michelle Doose, Mary Spear, Rachel Szybinski, Harry Hunt, Raina Roehmildt, Kim Bovee, David Marlow

Members Absent: Mary Thompson, Michelle Twait, Steve Erickson

1. Call to Order: Bill Kautt at 6:28

2. Devotions: Harry Hunt

3. Approval of the Agenda: M/S/C, with addition of technology update

4. Approval of July 20, 2021 Council Minutes: M/S/C. **July 27, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes:** M/S/C

5. Pastor’s Report: Pastor Bill Nelsen

- Continue three options for services- online, in person and Monday night. Masks will now be required for in person worship.
- Pastoral care has been increasing, now giving communion in care facilities. Home visits have included two visits with members who have now passed away.
- Monthly Synod meetings, Zoom meetings with other pastors.
- Redwood Falls for retirement get together for Bishop John
- Committee meetings
- Participating in Day of Hope coming up this weekend- Saturday in Minnesota Square Park
- Working with Angela, Stewardship Committee on Time and Talent brochure
- Preparing for being MC at Talent Show

6. President’s Report: Bill Kautt

- Lots of time in the courtyard pulling out weeds
- Attended talent show
- Person leading worship services for Hispanic community prior to COVID was indicted for a crime. Called and asked for key back until issue is resolved.
- Difficulty with emails- Angela has been working on figuring this out.
- Thank you from Synod for continued Mission support

7. Treasurer’s Report: Harry Hunt

- Financial analysis: Current info
- Envelope offerings have been down over the last few years. Hoping it will pick up after summer.
- 10,000 gift for the organ fund
- Still ahead for the year, about 29,000 dollars
- Current with mortgage payments
- Current with Synod at 5%- if excess, will bump up to 10%

8. Informational Reports

- A. Health Advisory Team: Met last week, CDC recommending return to masking indoors. Recommend masks inside and social distance. No food and drink served for Fellowship. Communion will be done with disposable kits. People will have kits in pews, administer to self.
- B. Update on Search for a Pastor: Pastor candidate did not feel called to First. Declined offer. Call has been made to Pastor Cook. One candidate still remains from initial process. Call Committee will meet to discuss moving on with an interview. Hopefully more candidates will be passed on to us. Call Committee members continue to be willing to work.
Pastor Bill's contract will expire on August 31. Bill Kautt contacted Pastor Bill about options for interim time. Pastor Bill submitted a proposal to Executive Committee in a special meeting to continue serving full time until Sept. 17.
Then, beginning Sept. 18 go to half time through Dec. 31 or sooner if new pastor begins before this. This plan would allow Pastor Bill to have some vacation time Aug. 31- Sept. 11. Pastor Bill has some other upcoming obligations he is tied to. Going half time would allow him to continue while still fulfilling other obligations. Executive Committee felt this was the best option for our church and brings this recommendation to council.
Motion to accept Pastor Bill's proposal S/C
- C. MetroNet received permits for what they need to do. Work could not be scheduled until permits were received. Mid September was estimate for work to be done. Worship and Arts will meet soon and try out use of many cam for recording service. Are outside groups going to be allowed to use the church? Not discussed at this meeting. Michelle will bring up at next meeting.

9. Unfinished Business:

- A. Council Member Duties and Responsibilities: A lot was taken from our Constitution, but wording can be changed. This is information for incoming council members.
Opened up for questions and comments. Duties of council members vs. duties of council are different. May need specificity? Use document shared with us previously by John S. - clear and concise. Give enough information for people to make an informed decision.
Two documents- one for nominating committee, one for actual council members once they are on council? This new document cuts down the Constitution into the nitty gritty of what is expected. Does someone want to take the two documents and work on making one or two meaningful documents? Nancy and Mary S. will be willing to take a look at documents and work on them.

10. New Business:

- A. Lay Person Commissioning: There is a hunger for communion among those that cannot make it to church. Idea of commissioning lay people to go out to serve communion. Pastor Bill wrote a proposal and shared it with both Worship and Arts and Executive Committees. Both thought this would be a great idea. Ceremony to go through -mostly

by prayer once they have gone through training by ordained pastor. Motion to accept Pastor Bill's proposal to train and commission lay persons to serve communion made by the Worship and Arts Committee- Voted and carried

B. Worship Services in the Fall: Information has come out for potential time frame for SS, based on service at 10:00. Should we keep 10:00 service? Will online option still be offered- yes, it will continue with use of new technology.

C. COVID Measures: See Health Advisory Notes. Singing will still be allowed.

11. Good of The Order: FLC Talent was great fun-hope we can do more fun activities together. Bethany was scheduled to do devotions in September, Rachel took her place and is willing to do devotions.

12. Lord's Prayer

13. Adjourned at 7:53

Next meeting will be on September 21, 2021 in the Dining Room at 6:30 pm