

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 25, 2017
Room 127

Present: Jamie Charlton, Pastor Robin Coughenower, Duane Danielson, Amanda Franklin, Jill Hyda, Phil McIlrath, Liz Nelson, Pastor Chris Olkiewicz, Ken Popken, Bob Prigge, Randy Ratekin, Paul Rogness, Ann Rowland, Linda Russell, Marilyn Warling

Absent: Liv Charlton, Teresa Powers

Visitors: None

I. Call to Order – Prigge called the meeting to order at 6:57 PM.

We Gather in God's Name

Rowland shared devotions surrounding the Easter season.

II. Approval of March 2017 Minutes

Charlton, J. moved to approve the March 2017 minutes. Seconded by Warling. Motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

- Danielson presented the report. The elm tree was trimmed using funds from the Property Maintenance Permanent Fund. A second certificate of deposit was renewed for another 10 months. The special offering to the Southeast Iowa Synod for ELCA Mission Support was \$595 with year-to-date \$1,457.

Rogness moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Popken. Motion carried.

IV. Unfinished Business

- Website Progress Update
 - Ratekin reported on the team's work with the new website. The basic website layout was demonstrated. The website will be mobile-friendly. The team hopes the first part of the website can be live in the next couple months.
- Interim Staffing Update
 - The Parish Education Committee affirmed a volunteer coordinator for the interim period. Maren Steensen has volunteered for children's ministry. Tracey Hirst will continue as the volunteer leader for youth ministry.
- Staffing Task Force Update
 - The task force met and confirmed objectives. Pastor Erika Uthe from the synod will be participating in future meetings. The task force will also be reviewing data of similar sized congregations.

- Sabbatical
 - Pastor Robin is preparing for her sabbatical. Sabbatical is paid from already designated continuing education funds. The sabbatical does not involve any added expense.

V. Consent Agenda

- Parish Education, Fellowship, Buildings & Grounds and Worship April committee minutes were presented.

Popken moved to approve the Parish Education, Fellowship, Buildings & Grounds and Worship April committee minutes. Seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

VI. Pastors' Reports & Teaching

- Pastor Chris reported that Amanda Lauritsen will continue directing the children and youth music ensembles the next school year. Pastor Chris will be participating in the National Workshop on Christian Unity and chairing the annual meeting on the Lutheran ecumenical network the first week of May. He will be traveling to the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Assembly during May 8-18 at Windhoek, Namibia. You can follow on the LWF Assembly Facebook page, via Twitter #LWFAssembly or at lutheranworld.org. Pastor Chris is grateful for the support of the congregation, enabling him the time to participate in these events. For those participating at the Synod Assembly, Pastor Chris has co-sponsored a resolution on sponsoring refugee resettlement institutions.
- Pastor Robin was pleased how the Lenten Lunch and Learn worked this season. Positive comments were received. Pastor Robin reported on the various ministry volunteers, as the task force reviews staffing needs including a two pastor model versus a one pastor model.

The teaching focused on the Holocaust Day of Remembrance and Luther's anti-Semitic language in the 1540's, which contradict some of his earlier teachings. The Bible passage focused on Romans 11 and God's relationship with the Jewish people.

VII. New Business

- Thrivent Requests
 - One request was received for \$350 for an Eagle Scout project by Cole Barrett. Proposal is to build shelving and installation in the resource room to assist with organization.

Warling moved to provide \$350 from Thrivent Funds to be reimbursed for shelving installed in the resource room. Seconded by Russell. Motion carried.

- Second request received to designate \$500 for Pigs with a Purpose with the funds provided to World Hunger.

Rogness moved to provide \$500 from Thrivent Funds to be paid to the Southeastern Iowa Synod in support of Pigs with a Purpose. Seconded by Popken. Motion carried.

- Third request received for \$500 for supporting the web design.

Nelson moved to provide \$500 from Thrivent Funds designated for the web design. Seconded by Rowland. Motion carried.

- Foundation Request

Popken moved to authorize Ratekin to request from WHLC Foundation \$2,000 for web design on behalf of the WHLC Council. Seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

- Council Retreat Plans

- Dates were reviewed. The retreat will be planned for Saturday, July 8. Time will be 9 AM – 3 PM. Pastor Erica Uthe will be leading the retreat. Location will be explored.

VIII. Announcements, Correspondence & Assignments

- Executive Committee Meeting – May 9, 5:30 PM
- All-Committee Night – May 9, 6:30 PM; Nelson, facilitator, devotions, refreshments
- Council Meeting – May 23, 6:30 PM
- May Council Meeting Devotions & Refreshments – Nelson
- Council Updates to Congregation
 - Saturday 5:30 PM Service – Popken
 - Sunday 8:30 AM Service – Russell
 - Sunday 10:45 AM Service – Rowland

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

IX. Adjournment

Pastor Robin led us in a closing devotion from *A Blessing Traveling in the Dark*.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
April 25, 2017