

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 19, 2017
Room 127

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

Absent: Jill Hyda

Visitors: Scott Steenson

I. Call to Order – Prigge called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

We Gather in God's Name

Franklin shared an Advent devotional. The reading encouraged us to focus on God's love. God's love should inspire us to love those around us.

II. Approval of November 2017 Minutes

Rogness moved to approve the November 2017 minutes. Seconded by Franklin. Motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

- Danielson presented the report.

Warling moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

- Steenson presented the 2018 budget from the Finance committee. The budget is very similar to 2017. Changes involve mortgage retirement, increased benevolence and reduction of staffing expenses.

Popken moved to approve the 2018 budget. Seconded by Rowland. Motion carried.

IV. Unfinished Business

- Director of Youth & Family Ministry/Congregational Life Coordinator Update
 - We have had a great pool of candidates with a variety of gifts to offer. Two candidates are returning for second interviews. Positive thoughts about the candidates have been received from the hiring committee.
- Congregation Council Nominating Committee Update
 - Three positions are open. Bonnie Hyda is chair of the committee. The committee has begun calling and asking for commitments.
- Invite + Grow + Serve Subgroup Reports
 - A progress report was presented from the "Serve" subgroup. Warling shared about the Google Forums spreadsheet created to assist in gathering and holding

information, sorting, and organizing our efforts to pair volunteers with service opportunities. The tool could be rolled out in January.

- A progress report was presented from the “Invite” subgroup. Ratekin shared notes from meetings with the Windsor Heights Fire Chief and other city leaders. The group will synthesize information from meeting and present community service opportunities to discuss for next steps.
- A progress report was presented from the “Grow” subgroup. Franklin discussed their surveys and having them finalized in the next few weeks.

V. Consent Agenda

Ratekin moved to approve the committee meeting minutes. Seconded by McIlrath. Motion carried.

VI. Pastors’ Reports & Teaching

- Pastor Robin discussed getting her new ½ time schedule organized and in place. She has a general schedule outline for now. She and Pastor Chris will re-evaluate after several months.
- Pastor Chris shared a reflection on “hospitality” inspired by St. Benedict. Hospitality is a holy thing. How might we at WHLC exhibit hospitality in a spiritual, emotional and physical way? “Receiving guests makes a church a healthy place.” – A quote from the reflection.

VII. New Business

- Annual Meeting
 - Pastor Chris asked whether we should offer a time for the congregation to discuss the 2018 proposed budget. We had such meetings available last year. Council agreed to hold a Proposed 2018 Budget Forum on Sunday, January 14 during adult forum. The budget will be available for the congregation by January 6. Council and the pastors suggested that detailed mortgage information be verbally presented at the annual meeting.
- Pastors’ Schedule
 - Pastor Robin and Pastor Chris have been working on a general schedule outline for Pastor Robin, as she moves to half time in January. They have a basic outline but will re-evaluate after a few months to ensure Pastor Robin is not taking on too many hours.
- Council Hosting Responsibilities
 - Council will be responsible for hosting the February 21 Lenten supper. Charlton will organize and recruit helpers.
 - Inez Boyken has volunteered to spearhead the council-hosted potluck for the Annual meeting on January 21. She will recruit helpers from council members.
- Emergency Situations
 - It was agreed to table conversations until the New Year.

- VIII. Announcements, Correspondence & Assignments
- Executive Committee Meeting – January 9, 5:30 PM
 - Open Committee Night – January 9, 6:30 PM
 - Council Meeting – January 23, 6:30 PM
 - Council Updates to Congregation
 - Saturday 5:30 PM Service – Prigge
 - Sunday 8:30 AM Service – Charlton
 - Sunday 10:45 AM Service – Warling

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

- IX. Adjournment
Pastor Robin led Council in a closing prayer. Prigge and Powers were thanked for their service to council this year.

Powers moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by McIlrath. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.

Minutes taken by Jamie Charlton.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
December 19, 2017