

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 25, 2018
Room 127

Present: Les Aasheim, Pastor Robin Coughenower, Amanda Franklin, Jill Hyda, Liz Nelson, Pastor Chris Olkiewicz, Bob Prigge, Ken Popken, Randy Ratekin, Ann Rowland, Kahlan Rowland, Linda Russell, Mitch Yeager, Marilyn Warling

Absent: Duane Danielson, Jamie Charlton

I. Call to Order – Popken called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

We Gather in God's Name

Yeager shared one of his poems called “Simple Little Poem” and various Bible passages.

II. Approval of August 2018 Minutes

Aasheim moved to approve the August 2018 minutes. Seconded by Ratekin. Motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

- The report was presented to Council for review.

Yeager moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

IV. New Business

- #InThisTogether Event
 - The event will be held at WHLC and include area ELCA congregations on October 11th. The morning session includes church staff, and the evening session is intended for congregational leadership. The evening session at 6:30 PM will be attended by several WHLC Council members. The session will look at where are we as a church and community.
- 75th Anniversary Task Force
 - Bonnie Hyda, George Hanusa, Linda Russell, Inez Boyken, John Reed and Jim Spizale are participating as part of the task force to develop plans for celebrating the 75th anniversary in 2019.

V. Unfinished Business

- Pictorial Directory
 - Congregation members have started scheduling photo appointments with Dodge Photography for the directory. Bruce Dodgen will meet with staff to plan for adding the pictorial to the website. Pictorial sessions are being scheduled for 40 minutes.

- Subgroup Reports
 - Invite – Six volunteers have signed up for Reading Buddies and eight volunteers as Math Buddies. Math Buddies are scheduled to start on Wednesday, September 26. We are awaiting a start date from the school to begin the Reading Buddies program.
 - Grow – Bible studies, pub theology and several other groups are meeting regularly.
 - Serve – Committee and staff members have reached out to individuals who have indicated a willingness to volunteer. Zach Meyer is sharing the data with staff for continued use as well.

- Security Task Force Update
 - Pastor Robin is working on the utility shutoff procedure. Pastor Robin also met with Police Chief McCloskey, who is the city's safety officer, and reviewed WHLC's ongoing efforts regarding security and procedures. Installation of the new video system and door buzzer will occur within the next two months. Pastor Chris surveyed his colleagues at a synod recent meeting on security and response exercises and shared a couple comments he received.

- Monument Sign
 - Ratekin has asked for additional information from potential vendors and is researching the Windsor Heights' City Code. Ratekin will pull the task force together to review options. Yeager, Russell and Liv Charlton are participating on the task force as well.

- Parish Hall Acoustical Paneling & Assisted Listening System
 - Materials will arrive around the 1st week of October, and then installation will be scheduled. It was recommended that the assisted listening system units be labeled between the sanctuary and Parish Hall.

- Buildings & Grounds Committee
 - Popken and Aasheim have met with committee members to begin deciding how the facility and landscape can be taken care of in an efficient manner and in consideration of future committee objectives and structure. Popken and Aasheim are visiting with outside experts as well to understand how items are handled at other locations.

- Fellowship Committee
 - Zach Meyer is examining the Time & Talent Survey for any Fellowship opportunities where new volunteers can participate. Popken visited with Marc and Mary Anderson on committee activities and coordination. Zach will be looking at activities, volunteer interest and new approaches that could be available.

- Nominating Committee
 - Franklin, Nelson, Ratekin, Rowland, K. and Russell will be ending their terms with Council at the end of the year. Popken will identify and appoint a nominating committee.

VI. Pastor Teaching Time

- Pastor Chris shared passages from Numbers 11. The group discussed handling uncertain futures and that God continues to provide. Interactions and behaviors are impactful to others. Council members also shared experiences of “God’s Work. Our Hands”.

VII. Consent Agenda

- The Worship and Fellowship committee September meeting minutes were shared with Council.
- Capital Appeal Report
 - Danielson provided an updated report to Council for review. No additional questions were asked.

VIII. Pastors’ Reports

- Pastor Robin reported that she and Pastor Chris met with Windsor Heights Methodist and Presbyterian churches for plans on the Thanksgiving service. The service will be hosted by Windsor Heights Presbyterian on November 18 at 4 PM. Confirmation classes have begun for 7th, 8th and 9th grade students. A report from the insurance company was received regarding the condition of the roof. A couple areas of pooling were indicated, and the roofing company has been contacted. Several branches from the elm tree were recommended to trim away from the roof. The report is being further reviewed. A hearing was held on ELCA Social Statement on Women and Justice and will be presented at the next assembly for approval.
- Pastor Chris and Pastor Robin participated in the SE Iowa Synod’s fall conference earlier this week. Pastor Chris stated that the “God’s Work. Our Hands.” initiative has begun.

Warling moved to approve \$500 from the Thrivent Funds for the “God’s Work. Our Hands.” initiative. Seconded by Aasheim. Motion carried.

Heartland Youth Choir has asked to install a projection screen in the choir room. It would be stored when not in use, so it is not intrusive when the room is used by the congregation and others. Options were provided to Council for review.

Nelson moved to approve the recommendation for a screen installation in the choir room for use by the Heartland Youth Choir. Seconded by Franklin. Motion carried.

The freezer in the kitchen was fixed. The 9th grade confirmation class will be joined by the confirmation class from St. John’s and five youth from other faiths. The class will also participate in the upcoming Langar meal at the Sikh temple. Pastor Chris recommended reviewing the mission as Council proceeds towards the end of the year.

- IX. Announcements, Correspondence & Assignments
- Council Meeting – October 23, 6:30 PM
 - Council Meeting Devotion/Refreshments – Warling
 - Council Updates to Congregation – September 29/30
 - Saturday 5:30 PM Service – Charlton/Prigge
 - Sunday 8:30 AM Service – Ratekin
 - Sunday 10:45 AM Service – Rowland, A.

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

- X. Adjournment

Pastor Robin led Council in a closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
September 25, 2018