

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 28, 2019
Room 127

Present: Les Aasheim, Pastor Robin Coughenower, Amanda Eakins, Jill Hyda, Ken Popken, Suzanne Nelson, Pastor Chris Olkiewicz, John Reed, Ann Rowland, Linda Russell, Samuel Steensen, Mitch Yeager, Marilyn Warling

Absent: John Ambroson, Jamie Charlton, Duane Danielson

I. Call to Order & Quorum Established – Aasheim called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

We Gather in God's Name

- Steensen read verses 1 and 5 of the hymn *By Gracious Powers* and reflected on hope and the resurrection.

Reed moved to approve the meeting agenda. Seconded by Steensen. Motion carried.

II. Approval of April 2019 Minutes

Popken moved to approve the April 2019 minutes. Seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

- Danielson provided the report to the Council. General offering for April was above budget, and year-to-date offering remains above budget as well.

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

IV. For the Good of the Order

- Aasheim thanked the pastors for all of their work the past couple months during the busy Lenten and Easter seasons. Aasheim shared a passage from the book, *The Plainsmen of the Yellowstone*, on a Lutheran missionary being established in the area by the German Evangelical Society of Iowa.

- Pastor Chris passed along thanks from Easter Seals management on the collaboration with WHLC. They welcome ways to become more involved in the WHLC community.

V. Pastors' Reports

- Pastor Robin is thankful for all of the work by the 75th anniversary committee and enjoyed the first summer celebration. Pastor Robin attended the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly in West Des Moines with Pastor Chris and Marilyn Warling. She shared learnings from a session on military chaplains.

- Pastor Chris noted that the Turning Point team will be meeting again in early June and continue to have one-on-one conversations with members. Warling attended as the voting member at the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly. A video celebrating WHLC's 75th anniversary was shared. The ELCA assembly will occur in Milwaukee this summer. In 2020, a new bishop will be elected for the synod. Future voting members may be elected at the next annual meeting. Warling will have a report in next month's Window. Pastor Chris shared an article on Pastor Eric Schaefer's ministry work in a college community, including addressing homelessness amongst college students (https://www.weare.santamonica.gov/stories/eric-story?fbclid=IwAR1docW17NtoPF1rnl_j_BKgiLtd1K2M-m_G0yirTAzCiQIOY1jrEgvQAZk).

VI. Unfinished Business

- 75th Anniversary
 - Over 100 tickets have been sold from the August 11th luncheon. The first summer reception had 70 in attendance. Thanks for Zach Meyer for creating the 75th anniversary tab on the WHLC website. Anniversary information, videos and more can be viewed. The confirmation class photo albums have been enjoyed. The search continues for original confirmation photos. Research is also continuing for archiving WHLC's records, photos, architectural drawings, etc. A schedule of events and speakers will be published in the June Window. Updates continue to be provided in the E-Weekly as well.
- Worship Times – Listening Posts
 - The Executive team recommended a couple listening posts with the congregation. The discussion will be based on several questions that will be posted ahead of the sessions to encourage hearing minority as well as majority opinions. The focus is to listen to both pros and cons of moving to a one Sunday worship service schedule. Sessions will be held on Sunday, June 16; Saturday, June 22; Sunday, July 21.

Reed moved to approve the three listening post sessions and dates. Seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

- Computer Financing
 - The new network was installed and is now working. Part of the funding will come from the WHLC Foundation grant. The Finance Committee is utilizing two permanent funds for the remainder of the cost. The received invoice ended up less than the quote.

VII. Book Discussion

- Council discussed the chapters 5 & 6 of *Surprised by Hope*. Ideas of idols in our culture, how that affects our life in the church and individualism versus community were discussed. Council will read and discuss chapters 7, 8 & 9 for June's meeting.

VIII. New Business

- Sanctuary Churches
 - Aasheim attended a meeting about working with migrants and refugees in Iowa held at Plymouth Congregational Church. Part of the discussion related to sanctuary churches. There are three sanctuary churches in Iowa: First Christian Church (Des Moines), First Unitarian Church (Des Moines) and Unitarian Universalist Congregation (Quad Cities). There are other churches considering serving as a sanctuary or providing support.

IX. Committee Reports

- Worship Committee minutes were circulated to Council.

X. Announcements

- Council Meeting – June 25, 6:30 PM
- Council Updates to Congregation – June 1/2
 - Saturday 5:30 PM Service – Reed
 - Sunday 9:30 AM Service – Rowland

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

XI. Adjournment

Pastor Robin closed in prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
May 28, 2019