

## **Congregation Council Update – September 24, 2019**

The city of Windsor Heights Chief of Police and Public Safety Director was a guest at the council meeting. He offered some ideas and measures about safety and security that we might want to consider.

President Les Aasheim announced that we will need to arrange for a snow removal contract for the coming winter. He expects a contract proposal will be on the agenda for the October meeting.

The council discussed the need for outside yard maintenance for 2020. Members who are interested in helping with this activity are encouraged to inform the church office or one of the pastors of their interest. The council expects that it may need to contract with individuals (members or others) or businesses for these services if there are no volunteers. Three major functions that need to be provided are lawn mowing, fertilizing and weed control.

Les reported that several individuals are interested in installing a “Little Library” on the church property along 66<sup>th</sup> St. You may have seen one of these libraries elsewhere in the Des Moines area. Pastor Chris reported that the Little Library movement was founded by a Lutheran in Wisconsin to encourage children and people to read and share.

The council also discussed church organizational structure – principally, committees versus project task forces or ministry teams. No specific conclusions were reached. But, members who have an interest in being on a committee or who have an event idea, ministry project idea or desire to help are encouraged to contact Les Aasheim, a council member or a pastor.

A member has asked if the Parish Hall could be used for a couple of pickle ball courts. The council has asked for a specific proposal to consider with particulars including a discussion about any costs to the church, proposed time schedules and the need to take down and set-up tables and chairs.

Members are reminded to leave the parking spaces near the front door for physically challenged individuals. The distance from the front door makes

the parking spaces marked for the handicapped less convenient for those persons with mobility issues.

The council received a report that the Wednesday night church service is working well and has good participation. You are encouraged to look at the Wednesday night schedule. It is an exciting time of the week here at the church.

Currently, the church does not have a written policy about individuals or groups using church equipment and supplies for non church related activities. The council has asked the Kitchen Committee to provide the council with some guidance on this matter.

The council completed reading and discussing N.T. Wright's book, "Surprised by Hope," a book essentially about the mission of the church.

As always, detailed financial reports are available in the church office. These monthly council reports and approved council minutes are posted monthly on the church website.