

WINDSOR HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 22, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present: John Ambroson, Jessica Chance, Sue Crum, Duane Danielson, Jill Hyda, Pam Lundell, Suzanne Nelson, Pastor Chris Olkiewicz, John Reed, Amanda Shepard-Eakins, Samuel Steensen, Mitch Yeager

Absent: Pastor Robin Coughenower, Halley Ryherd

We Gather in God's Name

I. Call to Order

- Ambroson called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

- Lundell shared a story from *Winnie The Pooh* about friendship and a reflection from a professor at Southern Illinois University.

II. Secretary's Report

Lundell moved to approve the August 2020 minutes. Seconded by Chance. Motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

- Danielson provided the report to Council. The S&P 500 fund was sold in August. Two other stock investments continue to be held. WHLC continues to have remarkable giving during the pandemic. 2021 budget work will start soon, and stewardship was discussed.

Crum moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Shepard-Eakins. Motion carried.

IV. For the Good of the Order

- None to report.

V. Pastors' Reports

- Pastor Chris shared about disaster response, especially as we are now 6 months into the pandemic. Six months is often a point seen by experts as a time when people "hit-the-wall" and one to two months later, a new energy is typically felt to move forward. Pastor Chris shared comments from Bishop Burk against in-person worship as cold weather approaches and recommendations for those who have gatherings as Iowa's infectivity rate remains high. Considerations for Advent, Christmas and the Annual meeting are needed. Bishop Burk's letter will be shared with the congregation. However, we need to keep our eyes open for the unexpected blessings we experience daily. Pastor Chris has been participating in the Fall Theological Conference online as his schedule permits. The newly elected bishop,

Rev. Amy Current, will be installed on October 10th. The installation will be streamed.

VI. Old Business

- Landscaping
 - The landscapers proceeded with the crown vetch removal and crushed red brick addition, but no sod has been laid. The quote approved did not include the vetch and red brick addition but did include sod. Pastor Chris has reached out to the landscaping company for what options are available.
- Health Advisory Team
 - The team will review and provide recommendations as we head into fall and winter.
- Fall Schedule
 - Services offered continue to go well. People appreciate the opportunities and are grateful to gather and receive communion.
- Drive-Through Voter Registration
 - The registration site will no longer be held at WHLC.
- Tree Removal
 - The removal remains on the schedule to handle when the company is able.

VII. New Business

- Council Letters
 - Reflections from Council members will be shared via the E-Weekly or Window.
- United Way 21-Day Equity Challenge
 - The challenge will be shared with the congregation and aligns with October's emphasis on understanding the diversity of our nation and community. All are encouraged to participate.
- Budget
 - Council liaisons will contact their committees to provide a basic summary at October's meeting.
- Nomination Committee
 - Council can provide any suggestions for members of the nomination committee to Ambrosion.

VIII. Announcements

- Council Meeting – October 27, 6:00 PM
- Council Congregational Update – Ambrosion

We Close in Prayer & Send in Mission

IX. Reflections & Closing Prayer

- Pastor Chris shared a prayer from *Laudato si* by Pope Francis on the care of the Earth that speaks to the season of creation.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Hyda
WHLC Council Secretary
September 22, 2020