

EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: February 1, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dick Vollbrecht, Susie Krohn, Russel Salter, Pat Grams, Tom Rivers, Marlene Connell, Diane Fenendael

Unable to attend: Pastor Carol Christianson, Mary Fairbank

CALL TO ORDER: 4:05 p.m. by Dick Vollbrecht

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

President: Dick Vollbrecht – Motion by Pat Grams, Second, Susie Krohn; Motion approved.

Treasurer: Susie Krohn – Motion by Dick Vollbrecht; Second, Russel Salter, Motion approved.

Vice President/Memorial: Mary Fairbank – Motion by Dick Vollbrecht; Second, Russell Salter; Motion approved.

Financial Secretary: Marlene Connell – Motion by Dick Vollbrecht; Second Susie Krohn, Motion approved.

Property: Tom Rivers, Russel Salter – Motion by Dick Vollbrecht, Second, Pat Grams; Motion approved.

Secretary: Diane Fenendael – Motion by Susie Krohn, Second, Dick Vollbrecht, Motion approved.

Stewardship/Witness/Worship: Pastor Carol Christianson – Motion by Dick Vollbrecht; Second, Pat Grams; Motion approved.

Event Planning/Fund Raising: Pat Grams and Mary Fairbank – Motion by Dick Vollbrecht; Second Marlene Connell; Motion approved.

List of Council Members with contact information was updated.

DEVOTIONS: Pastor Carol was not able to attend so there were no devotions.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Motion to approve Agenda by Marlene Connell; Second, Tom Rivers; Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve Council Meeting Minutes from January 8, 2024 by Susie Krohn; Second, Russel Salter; Motion approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Dick Vollbrecht read the Pastor's Report as submitted by Pastor Carol Christianson.

Updated Bible Study:

February 5 and February 26 – 12:00-1:00 p.m. Lectio Divina led by Pastor Carol.

February 12 and February 19 – 12:00-1:00 p.m. Book Study of “The Footsteps of Jesus” led by Charlotte Rebelein.

Month of March – Return to Lectio Divina led by Pastor Carol.

Month of April – No Bible Study

Month of May: Return to Lectio Divina led by Pastor Carol.

Pastor Carol indicated an interest in starting an early evening Bible Study once a month during the months of June, July and August. To be discussed further.

Lenten Services: Theme for mid-week services will focus on the book of 1 John. Ash Wednesday service will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Emanuel Constitution: Last October, Pastor Carol studied the model constitution for ELCA congregations and wrote a recommendation for Emanuel Lutheran to implement. Recently, she revisited the model and her recommendations which have now been given to Dick Vollbrecht and Mary Fairbank. She believes that implementing the current model to our constitution should be fairly simple.

Vacation: Vacation scheduled for April 7-19, 2024. Pastor Carol did not get vacation she is entitled to last year (five weeks) due to circumstances beyond her control. She asked the Council to consider using her April vacation time to be counted against the first year of her call (2023). After discussion, Tom Rivers made a motion to count Pastor Carol's April 2024 vacation against the 2023 year; Second, Pat Grams; Motion approved.

Pastor Carol's vacation for 2024 includes two weeks in June, two weeks in October; with one week open.

Pulpit Supply will be needed for April 7 and April 14, 2024. Dick Vollbrecht will contact Pastor Bob Rosenberg regarding his willingness and availability for those dates.

Continuing Education: Pastor Carol asked for the opportunity to attend a preaching class offered by Wartburg Theological Seminary to their alumni. This class takes place the Monday through Thursday after Easter. Following discussion, Dick Vollbrecht will ask Pastor Carol to submit costs associated with attending this class.

Installation of Council Members: Dick Vollbrecht will check with Pastor regarding a date.

Pastor Carol asked about insurance that may cover injuries that occur on church or parsonage property. Dick Vollbrecht will contact Nolan Insurance regarding liability coverage for Directors and Officers.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: No report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer's Report for January, 2024 was distributed. Susie Krohn reported that she talked to the Synod regarding payments for Emanuel's mission for Crossways Camping. Check will be made to Crossways Camping. Oshkosh Conference dues were paid. February will take a hit with a snowplow bill of \$1,300. Susie Krohn received a letter from the Rosendale School District thanking Emanuel for clothing and snacks for the Brandon School. Susie also brought up the possibility of purchasing new cushions for the pews. No decision was made. Motion to approve Treasurer's Report by Russel Salter; Second, Marlene Connell; Motion approved.

LEARNING /YOUTH: Nothing to report.

MEMORIAL: No report.

PROPERTY: See under New Business regarding two new church furnaces.

STEWARDSHIP/WITNESS/WORSHIP: No report.

EVENTS/FUND RAISING: No report.

OLD BUSINESS: Preparations continue for the 150th Anniversary celebration. Next meeting for the anniversary committee is February 24, 2024 at 10:00.

Emanuel mission money will now be funding Crossways Camping as discussed and decided at the Annual Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Grinnell will no longer be covering our church and parsonage insurance needs as of February 7, 2024. Nolan Insurance has given us a new quote from a new carrier. We will have coverage as of February 7, 2024 on a month-to-month basis. Other insurance options for the church and parsonage will continue to be explored.

Dick Vollbrecht reported that we now have two bids for two new church furnaces. Bids are for the two furnaces needed. **Brewer Heating:** \$13,620 with a \$540 rebate. **Condon Total Comfort:** Bids for three different brand furnaces. Concord: \$13,020; Lennox: \$14,340 Armstrong: \$16,390

Susie Krohn brought up discussion on getting a bid from a third company called All Phase. Tom Rivers and Russel Salter will contact All Phase to get their bid.

Decision will be made very soon regarding the purchase of these two furnaces. Council was given approval by the Congregation at the January 28, 2024 annual meeting to make the decision regarding this purchase.

Dick Vollbrecht is looking into options in the event that Emanuel may no longer have a regular organist.

Lenten Soup Supper sign-up sheets are available in the entry.

There was discussion regarding Easter Services. Motion made by Pat Grams to have one Easter Service at 9:30; Second, Marlene Connell; Motion approved.

Charlene Strook and Renee Strook Mayo volunteered to provide Easter Breakfast which will take place after the 9:30 Easter service.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 5:15 p.m. by Marlene Connell; Second, Russel Salter; Motion approved.

LORD'S PRAYER

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 4, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Diane Fenendael, Secretary