

EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: April 1, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dick Vollbrecht, Susie Krohn, Mary Fairbank, Russel Salter, Tom Rivers, Diane Fenendael

Unable to attend: Pastor Carol Christianson

CALL TO ORDER: 4:01 p.m. by Dick Vollbrecht

DEVOTIONS: No Devotions

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Items were added to the Agenda. Motion to approve Agenda by Mary Fairbank; Second, Russel Salter; Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve Council Meeting Minutes from March 4, 2024 by Tom Rivers; Second, Mary Fairbank; Motion approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Carol was unable to attend but submitted her written report which was read by Council members.

Worship: Lent is complete. Maundy Thursday went well. Good Friday was received well by many parishioners and requests were made to do the same format next year. Pastor Carol received feedback that the hymn did not match the readings and will take into consideration adjustments that may be needed for use next year. Easter Sunday: Pastor Carol chose the liturgy and chose setting one. There was some confusion as to the singing of The Hymn of Praise. Pastor Carol will return to the suggestions from Sundays and Seasons as published in our subscription. Sundays and Seasons may be up for renewal. Pastor Carol indicated the council should discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the subscription. She said the section for preaching does not need to be renewed. This should help with the financial aspect of our budget.

Pastor Carol continues to work on the 150th Anniversary celebration, to remind the congregation to return RSVPs, develop the worship bulletin and program outline.

Gluten Free Holy Communion is available as an option. Pastor Carol is happy to have this option available to our worship assembly.

Pastoral Care: Pastor Carol regrets her inadequacies in this part of her ministry and has made an honest attempt to change this pattern of inadequacies. She has reached out to people who have chosen to no longer worship with us to let them know she is available should they need any assistance. She has met with two members regarding the disruption in our life here at Emanuel. If anyone on Council or members of this congregation have concerns or issues, please feel free to contact Pastor Carol and set up a time to discuss any concerns you may have.

Pastor Carol is still trying to learn how to use our sound system properly. These issues need to be addressed.

Bible Study: The format Pastor Carol has been using went extremely well and she will revisit weekly Bible study in the fall. Charlotte's Book Study went extremely well and Pastor Carol worked hard to understand how best to support this endeavor and received positive feedback.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Our Lenten soup suppers are turned out with good attendance. Members stepped up to make soup, sandwiches, and desserts, and to serve and clean up.

March 31 Easter breakfast before church was provided by Charlene Strook and Renee Strook Mayo. We had good attendance and would like to thank Charlene, Renee, and Steve Kastein.

Pastor Bob will be our substitute pastor on April 7 while Pastor Carol is gone, and we have Peg Salmela for April 14.

The choir is reorganizing and Charlotte Rebelein will be accompanying them and also playing more for church services.

The 150th Anniversary committee met March 30 and will meet again April 13. Pepsi will donate banners for the pig roast and may donate Pepsi products. The banner for the 150th is installed on the front door. They have finalized the booklet which we will have printed in Ripon at Good Impressions. The contract for the tent rental has also been finalized.

Mary Fairbank will be the Financial Secretary to replace Marlene Connell.

The bathroom remodeling is in progress and will be done before the 150th anniversary.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer's Report for March, 2024 was distributed. Susie Krohn mentioned that the bottom line is a little high from usual. There were two power & light bills for the church. The parsonage will be paid next month. Parsonage is on a budget. Almost \$12,000 was taken out of savings for the two new furnaces and updates for the bathrooms. Insurance is hitting us for two months. Motion to approve March Treasurer's report by Mary Fairbank; Second, Russel Salter; Motion approved.

LEARNING /YOUTH: Nothing to report.

MEMORIAL: Mary Fairbank reported interest of 48 cents. Memorial balance is \$3803.05.

PROPERTY: Russel Salter reported that on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, the two new furnaces for the church were installed by Brewer Heating and Air Conditioning.

The two bathrooms on the east side were prepared for new flooring to be installed (Russel Salter, Tom Rivers, Dick Vollbrecht). Sharkfinn Remodeling installed the flooring on March 25, 2024.

Parking lot and driveway must have a second seal coating which will be done in warmer weather.

STEWARDSHIP/WITNESS/WORSHIP: No report.

EVENTS/FUND RAISING: Brat Fry and Strawberry Festival – See Old Business

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Preparations for the 150th Anniversary of Emanuel Lutheran Church are going well. Next meeting of the committee will be April 13.
2. Tammy Briskie was invited to attend the Council Meeting regarding the email she sent to Dick Vollbrecht. She did not attend.
3. Music Update: Charlotte Rebelein is taking April off from playing for the services. Music for services in April to be determined. Roberta Ryskoski will help as a substitute organist in the future. Compensation for Roberta is to be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Scrip Update: Susie Krohn, Dick Vollbrecht, and Russel Salter are taking over the Scrip program. We're very thankful to Loine Hockman who has been doing Scrip for the past 12 years. Susie Krohn and Dick Vollbrecht are eligible account signers for Scrip. Mary Fairbank is an eligible backup account signer for Scrip. Susie Krohn suggested two people should be available to sell Scrip and also selling every Sunday. Renee Theyerl and Diane Rens will audit Scrip April 5, 2024. Selling Scrip will not start until after the audit. Also, the key to the safe does not come to the new people until audit is done.
2. Dick Vollbrecht suggested the possibility of using money from undesignated Memorial funds to pay for the vanities, faucets, mirrors, and Scrip to pay for the rest of the bathroom projects. Susie Krohn opened discussion to move Sunday School savings to the General Account. Mary Fairbank made a motion to move Sunday School savings to the General Account; Second, Russel, Salter; Motion approved.
3. Brat Fry and Bake Sale is scheduled for May 10 & 11. Fliers have been made announcing this event and prices have been set. Mary Fairbank has a \$250 Thrivent card for this event.
4. Strawberry Festival will be held on June 9, 2024. Mary Fairbank is working on ordering strawberries through A&W (Cisco). Mary has a \$250 Thrivent card for this event also.
5. Pastor Carol is looking at fall restart for Bible Study.
6. Dick Vollbrecht will discuss Sundays and Seasons subscription renewal with Ann Kastein to help toward making a determination as to what is needed and not needed for renewing the subscription.
7. Dick Vollbrecht received a letter dated March 1, 2024 from Pat Grams indicating she was stepping down from Council effective immediately due to current personal circumstances and health concerns.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn at 5:21 p.m. by Tom Rivers; Second, Russel Salter; Motion approved.

LORD'S PRAYER

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Diane Fenendael, Secretary