

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES
June 5, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: Council President Rebecca Brunetta called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

PRESENT: Pastor Kemp, Bob Errett, Megan Zobb, Rebecca Brunetta, Joan Orr, Kim von Schlichten, Jeanne Kiss, Merle Baker, Dianna Marusko, Amy Schultz

ABSENT: Suzie Flory, Brandie Saraceni, Sue Ross

JOY OF THE DAY – Several joys this month. The blessing of three baptisms coming this summer.

OPENING PRAYER

MINUTES: Merle Baker moved to accept the minutes and Dianna Marusko seconded. Motion approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Bob Errett moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report and Jeanne Kiss seconded. Motion approved.

PASTOR’S REPORT: May 2018 Report

1. Pastoral acts:
 - a. Funerals/Memorial Services: Yvonne Fleegle 5-26-18
 - b. Weddings: none
 - c. Baptisms: none
 - d. Confirmations:
 - i. Ailanthus Hanzel 5-20-18
 - ii. Jacob Julian 5-20-18
 - iii. Bradley Schmidt 5-20-18
2. Visitation
 - a. General/miscellaneous visits: 17
 - b. Hospital visits: 2
 - c. Bereavement visits: 3
 - d. Extraordinary communions (these are not extra visits): 11
 - e. Office Visits: 3
3. Worship leadership other than Sunday mornings, weddings and funerals:
 - a. Preached at St. Andrew—Shadyside 5-5-18
4. Activity
 - a. Catechism (Confirmation) instruction:
 - i. during the Sunday school hour until 5-13
 - ii. rehearsal with the confirmands 5-19-18
 - b. Congregation Council: 5-1-18
 - c. Fellowship 5-2-18
 - d. Greensburg Pastors’ Pericope study at Zion’s: 5-1-18, 5-22-18, 5-29-18
 - e. Pre-school field trip to the horse farm: 5-8-18
 - f. Finance: 5-15-18
 - g. Christian Education including VBS: 5-15-18
 - h. Food from the Heart Luncheon: 5-2-18, 5-9-18, 5-16-18, 5-23-18
 - i. Mtg. with Doing Better Business reps & office staff: 5-10-18, 5-17-18
 - j. Choir Party 5-10-18
 - k. Preschool Chapel Time: 5-2-18, 5-3-18, 5-9-18, 5-17-18, 5-23-18, 5-23-28, 5-24-18
 - l. Preschool Graduation: 5-24-18
 - m. Active Shooter Training at Good Shepherd Westpoint: 5-25-18

- n. Mtg with Social Ministry and Habitat for Humanity reps: 5-23-18
 - o. Continuing Education: From 4-23-18 (Evening) to 4-24-18
 - p. Executive: 5-29-18
 - q. Property (A & B): 5-30-18
 - r. Evangelism: 5-31-18
 - s. Food Pantry: 5-17-18
5. For Information/Discussion:
- a. Staff Evaluations: These are in process; they should be done by the end of the week.
 - b. Worship Concerns: I discussed with the worship and evangelism teams, the possibility of having a spoken word worship service in Word and sacrament. I'm aiming at Wednesdays at 6 pm beginning July 11. This will be a very simple communion service with no music that should be roughly 30 minutes in length. Part of this is to address one of the objectives of the Evangelism team per the objectives in the council retreat booklet. I look to do this on a trial basis for either 3 months or upon the expiration of my term.
 - c. IT Concerns:
 - i. Website: We are looking to make several changes. Into June, we are going to be looking at several possibilities.
 - ii. Sound System: The bugs have been worked out—for the most part. CD's have been produced for delivery to homebound members and the sermons have been uploaded to the website
 - d. Personal Personnel Concerns:
 - i. I will be on vacation from June 27 until July 1. This will be the 3rd week (including Sunday) out of 4 per my Letter of Call. Pastor Smith will be in the pulpit on 7-1-18
 - ii. Per the June Synod ECHO newsletter, I have been re-assigned to Conference 4 by the synod office
 - iii. Per my request, my own congregational membership was transferred from First-Pittsburgh (Downtown) to St. Andrew-Pittsburgh (Shadyside).
 - iv. On July 2, I will be meeting with the bishop and Pastor Sarah Lee-Faulkner to clarify my status as we approach the expiration of my term call on August 18.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

For Your Information:

1. Vacation Bible School at Zion's July 9-12, 6:30-8:00
2. Synod Assembly June 14 – 16 - Rebecca Brunetta, Bob Errett, Joan Orr, Amy Schultz, Pastor Larry, Jeanne Christensen

For Action: Executive Committee recommends:

1. Cancelling July Council Meeting in exchange for a social event/dinner for council members and significant others on Tuesday, July 17th at Giannilli's in Carbon at 6:30. Seconded by Bob Errett. 9 yays, Dianna jokingly a nay since she will be on vacation and will be missed. Motion passed.

ACTIVATION TEAM REPORTS:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/YOUTH Meeting held May 15, 2018

1. VBS meeting with members of Zions Lutheran Church. VBS will be held on July 9th-12th, this year's Theme: Hero Central. We chose lessons for each day: Monday - Samuel Anoints David, Tuesday - Abigail Saves the Day, Wednesday - Jesus goes to the Temple and Thursday - Pentecost.
2. Sunday May 20th three students will Affirm their Baptism during worship: Ailanthus Hanzel, Bradley Schmidt and Jacob Julian.
3. Also May 20th is our last Sunday School for the 2017-2018 Sunday School year. Students will Receive Perfect Attendance certificates along with turning in their attendance medals for award gifts.

4. The Youth Team will be making blankets for graduating seniors.
5. Erika Colonna is securing a date for a family event of miniature golf at a local course.
6. The Spring Book Fair held by Barb Krunszyinsky and Bonnie Rich was a big success with many of our youth and adult members leaving with plenty of books for a summer of reading fun.
7. Discussion for 2018-2019 Sunday School class for high school students along with music class for elementary Sunday School students.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, June 12, 2018 @ 6:00 PM at Zions Lutheran Church

PROPERTY Meeting held May 30, 2018

1. Dave Cobb spoke on Habitat for Humanity and the future programs they are planning. Contact Dave Cobb if you are interested in volunteering for these outreach programs.
2. Dean spoke on the meeting with contractor Nick Raimondo and the West Penn Power representative concerning the pointing and sealing of the west wall of the church. Planning stages are being made as to cost and regulations.
3. Kitchen sink has been replaced in the Fellowship Hall.
4. Brian Erdman spoke on the cost of LED lights and has found a new distributor.
5. Bob Stricklin spoke on the HVAC update. Repair kits are to be installed in the fall to comply with a two year program.
6. Dean has contacted a window company to fix the broken choir window.

Next Meeting Date: June 27, 2018

EVANGELISM Meeting held May 31, 2018

1. Meeting opened with prayer led by Pastor Larry.
2. Welcome to Our Congregation Package: The Committee looked at the collection of items assembled for inclusion in the package. Items included candy, gum and un-popped microwave popcorn packages, bookmark crosses with scripture printed on the cut-out cross and pens with crosses printed on the shaft. Amy Schultz also provided a lovely storage basket in which to keep the assembled bags. Sue Boggs brought in bags for the goodies and suggested and we obtain small notebooks to go along with the pens. Joan will see to getting the “Thanks for Popping In” cards printed and gather data for an informational brochure. We plan to pack the bags at our Thursday, June 21 meeting.
3. We Miss You Notes: The committee delayed the “we miss you notes” until we can meet and discuss who should get the notes with Pastor Larry.
4. Road Signs: No action was taken on the road signs. But there appears to be a fourth sign:
 - a. East Pittsburg Street across from CVS
 - b. Route 119, entering town from the south near Tom’s Bar
 - c. Route 119 entering town from the north near All Saints Brewery
 - d. The sign on East Pittsburgh Street entering the downtown area on Barnhart Funeral Home property has been maintained and updated by the Barnharts.
5. Stories of Faith: A small booklet the ELCA publishes each year to celebrate stories of faith and ministry. It was proposed that we prepare some stories to be fitted into the newsletter or bulletin as space is available. Two of these stories will be printed, one in the July newsletter and one in the August newsletter.
6. Forgiveness Campaign: Scheduled to run from September to December of 2018.
7. God’s Work, Our Hands Day – September 9: The Committee has decided to participate in this program sponsored by ELCA Churchwide. They have chosen a project for Labor Day, September 3, 2018. We will be arranging delivery of cookie trays to the following emergency and service organizations in Greensburg: Greensburg Police, State Police, Westmoreland Hospital Emergency

Room, Mutual Aid Ambulance and the Greensburg Fire Department. A way to say thank you for their vigilance.

Next Meeting Date: June 21 @ 7:00 PM

FINANCE Meeting held May 15, 2018 at 6:30 PM

1. Opened with a prayer by Pastor Larry
2. Those in attendance: Pastor Larry Kemp; Bob Errett; Malcolm Sias; Dave Cobb, Dan Lucas; Dave Mickley
3. Mid-town Plaza Project
 - a. Still waiting on meetings with attorneys for mediation process. Discussion was made on what we would like to see from mediation. Malcolm will call Wes Long next Monday to discuss how to get this done quickly
 - b. Tax Appeal is still delayed
 - c. Waiting on April's KW Management account statement
3. Morgan Stanley
 - a. Eric came to the meeting this evening. Gave his state of the market address. We discussed each account in both the Trust Fund and the B&R Fund. All questions were answered. Discussed merging some accounts together. Question asked about Million Dollar Legacy Fund. Most funds are performing well.
 - b. It was moved by Dave Cobb and seconded by Dave Mickley that we seek a different Bond Market firm than Boyd Watterson. We are required to hold at least 30% in Bonds, Alternatives and cash, but we still need to beat the prevailing markets. Discussion was made. Motion passed. Bob to call or contact Eric & Alex about the change. Done. Seeking alternatives.
4. Insurance
 - a. Church Mutual invoices paid in April
 - b. Guide One invoice paid in April
 - c. Inventory in process for Workman's Compensation insurance through Guide One. We may get a rebate check back for that insurance.
 - d. Guide One sent us a "Thank You" note for continuing to do business with them.
5. Bob read and sent around the Annual Report for the "Always Being Made New" ELCA program. This is one of the programs to which we gave Trust Outreach money
6. Discussed meeting with Habitat for Humanity May 23rd about setting up a build in which members of the church can get involved. Great potential mission work for our members
7. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 7:40 PM

Next Meeting Date: June 19, 2018 @6:30 PM

SOCIAL MINISTRY Meeting held May 12, 2018 at 9:30 AM

1. The last Fair Trade table of the year was May 13. It will resume in September!!
2. The Mother's Day carnations were passed out at the end of each service and it appeared to be a hit, once again! Thank you to the youth for handing out the flowers to all the moms and thank you to Sue and Dave Cobb and Gabrielle Beaken for helping to tie on the bookmarkers!
3. Don't forget the summer food drive!! Please read the newsletter to find out what items are needed each month during the summer.
4. The committee will continue to provide those who walk into the church and are in need of food with 1 prepared bag of groceries.

Next Meeting Date: TBA

STEWARDSHIP – No report submitted

WORSHIP AND MUSIC Meeting held May 27, 2018

1. Pastor Larry brought up the possibility of a mid-week spoken Service.
2. It would be on Wednesdays at 6:00p.m. Try for 2 months then evaluate.
3. Marvin said that we will use Setting 10 in June.
4. Discussion about altar and chancel flowers. They do not look fresh. Some flowers are dead.
5. Several members have complained. Will ask Patricia to call Mr. Jones and give him a few weeks to improve.

Next Meeting Date: TBA

PERSONNEL Meeting held May 8, 2018 @ 6:00 PM

1. Employee Evaluations will be done by the end of May
2. Pastor Larry “tweaked” the Employee Evaluation Form for clarity
3. Discussed using the Ministry Review Questionnaire for the Pastoral Evaluation
4. Employee Handbook discussion to be continued
5. We are blessed that all personnel work well together

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday June 12, 2018 @ 6:00 PM.

FELLOWSHIP Meeting held May 2, 2018

1. There was discussion about having a FUN event involving a movie in the park but moving it inside to the Social Hall would eliminate license fee and requirements. Prior to the movie outdoor games can be played in the park. It was suggested to host this in August.
2. Another FUN event that was considered is a game night in the Social Hall to be held sometime in September.

Action needed by Council: Further discussion and concerns about above topics.

Next Meeting Date: June 6, 2018

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY Did not meet

CALL COMMITTEE Meeting held June 2, 2018

1. On May 14 the Call Committee went to Synod and met with Pastor Sarah and four other churches. It was an informal review of the process and a guide for how things should go.
2. Meeting on July 16 with Pastor Sarah for a bible study.
3. Process is ongoing.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Windows that have been updated look very nice and we are thankful.
2. Capital Campaign still being discussed by Property

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Review of Ministry Review Questions document
2. New office copier

- a. Current copier is frequently breaking down and is 10 years old. Service contract is in line with leasing or buying a new one. There are currently two purchase and two leasing options being considered.
- b. Megan Zobb made a motion to lease a color copier from Doing Better Business for 60 months with a maintenance contract for \$359.19 a month. Bob Errett seconded. Motion passed.
- c. Discussion on donation or sale of current working copier. This will be looked into.
3. The Red Cross is looking for a place in Greensburg to be an emergency shelter. Bob Errett will schedule with representatives from the Red Cross come to discuss the details with Council at the August meeting.
4. St. John's in North Versailles is looking for donations and volunteers for Rise Against Hunger September 8th 9:30-12:00. Notification will be put into the bulletin and newsletter.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Bob Errett and seconded by Amy Schultz to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved.

CLOSING PRAYER

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Zobb, Council Secretary