

MEETING MINUTES: Sunday, August 20, 2017

Council for Christ Lutheran Church and PreSchool

ATTENDEES: Lois Menis, Kathy Davis, Tom Pfenning, Jodi Jost, Rob Jost, Rich Davis, Lynn Brandl. Not in attendance Penni Sauer. Also in attendance June Moore, Natalie Hilberg, Doug Moore, Allie Menis, Tyllie Menis, Christine Widing.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at approximately 10:45 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Motion to approve minutes of the June 4, 2017 meeting (provided earlier via email) made by Jodi Jost; Seconded by Rob Jost. Approved.*

DISCUSSION OF PASTORAL SITUATION: Lynn Brandl reviewed that Rev. Amy Becker-Perez will begin as our part-time interim pastor on August 27, and will work into a schedule of approx 20 hours per week. Her request for Sundays-away will be explored after a time of consistent worship, and not expected to be discussed until October.

FINANCIALS: Tom Pfenning provided end-of-July financials reports for the combined operations (dated 8/20/17; attached) and PreSchool only (dated 8/20/17; attached). In general, summer is always hard on our ministry, and this year has been one of the hardest as far as finances. The ComEd bill is larger than usual (Davis family has pledge to cover it), and Tom pointed out the need for austerity. (Regarding energy consumption: The sanctuary is uncooled except for Sunday morning. Thermostats will be checked for auto settings. Harvey/Assurance may need to provide another stop-gap AC recharge and repair to the Great Room, which has an aging AC system.) Just under \$5000 is due for mortgage. August 30 payroll will mostly be those salaries deferred from August 15 to support finances. Sergio will have a larger cleaning bill due to carpet cleaning, which turned out surprisingly nice. The phone bill has crept up (Lynn will examine, especially since we are now getting phantom data overage messages). We are not current with PreSchool copier bills. That said, Kathy Davis expects to bring in some amount of tuition money on August 27 during Open House. Any discussion of further adjustments in PreSchool or Church operations will be explored offline.

Additional possible capital expenditures for the record include an electrician to look at one bank of sanctuary lights and front sign (which no longer lights), emergency system inspections (required by state and will include repair of sprinkler system's Backflow valve, which has been dripping since last fall — estimated at \$750 per Lynn Brandl's inquiries), new roof (insurance has agreed to pay for a total re-roof, with \$500 deductible covered by a donor; work expected to be done in late September), new parking lot lights (inspection shows they are rusted and no longer safely planted – a parent's insurance has provided \$2100 and bulk of \$7000 plus bill will be covered by donor; work expected to be done on 2 consecutive Saturdays), fence, organ, and other repairs as they arise.

MOTION to accept the financial reports made by Richard Davis; Seconded by Jodi Jost. Approved.

PRE-SCHOOL/KIDS KAMP MINISTRY: Summer Kids Kamp was filled and successful. Fall PreSchool is full but for some spaces in the youngest Tot and Young Three's program, which is usually the case for the start of the school year. All staff is hired and ready for Installation on Sunday, August 27. Kathy was thanked for her leadership of this important ministry, which reaches hundreds of children and families each year. (For the record, this year's staff is Kathy Belzer, Devina Dixit, Tracey Fenton, Susan Germain, Gini Guentner, Jayne Hezner, Melissa Kabel, Uma Kirshnan, Charlotte Lehmann, Lisa Lehocky, Jennifer Lucas, Christine Nitz, Denise Ralph, Ramya Veeravalli and director Kathy Davis.)

EDUCATION/SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY: Jodi Jost reported that Mir Pawlak had identified a curriculum that lends itself to multi-generational classes. Just as Jodi has done in the past, Mir donated the first unit for us to try. Jodi is reaching out to teachers. Registration day is expected to be September 10, with first Sunday School class expected on September 17. We will continue with mid-service model. Confirmation will be discussed with Pastor Amy. Nan Dahlke had expressed interest in supporting this ministry. Potential students include Christine Widing, Augie Jones, Joey Belzer, Chloe Ravenscraft and Ben Ravenscraft, among others.

PICNIC PLANNING FOR AUGUST 27: Lois Menis and her family will continue to take the lead on this huge project, though they have been encouraged to look to others for support. Set up will be Saturday, August 26 at 1 p.m. and will include tables, chairs, pop-up canopies, food stations and a bounce house. Picnic will begin right after worship and will include pre-made/wrapped hot dogs (last year's count was 250), falafel (last year's count was 6 dozen; Trader Joe's was not worth the price; Lois will check with Pita Inn on quantity discount), pita bread, watermelon, cookies, individual chip bags, water bottles, lemonade. Activities will include bounce house and temporary tattoo table. Boy Scouts have been invited to eat and receive service hours.

CALL COMMITTEE: Mir Pawlak emailed a report that included the group's work in prioritizing main pastoral tasks for the 20/week schedule. Mir will meet with Pastor Amy to discuss. Group expected to meet again in September. Ongoing, the group will provide pastoral support/direction, and then look ahead to placing a permanent call.

WORSHIP/CONGREGATIONAL LIFE ACTIVITIES: With her direction, we will schedule a welcome celebration/ Installation service for Pastor Amy. We will also need to schedule a Congregational Meeting (vote on leaders, vote on Constitution, etc.), which is currently anticipated for after Installation. Please pray about leadership roles and ask others to get involved. All events TBD after consultation with Pastor Amy.

CURRENT PROJECTS/TASKS:

- **Altar Guild** – Kathy Davis will work with Christine Nitz on a process for ordering candles, oil, communion cups, etc.
- **Collections** – Natalie Hilberg will take another load to Love Inc (she volunteers twice a week); Natalie will schedule a time to pick up items that are in sprinkler room; Lynn Brandl will deliver baby goods to A Safe Place in Zion; Rob Jost continues to deliver to COOL Food Pantry.
- **Maintenance Projects** – Village had informally suggested we get our weeds controlled, so much work had already been done. Scouts, justWorship and others are planning to work this coming weekend. Potholes will be cold patched by volunteers after light poles are in place. Summer lawn help is back in high school, so mowing will fall back to volunteers (i.e., faithful Tom). We won't paint the church office unless Pastor Amy requests. Front sign and church light electrical problem will require hired help. Tom will make a plastic insert for the front sign with Pastor Amy's name. Tom Pfenning circulated a punch list of maintenance tasks (attached).
- **Computer Status** – Harrison Menis will install the donated computer in the Pastor's office as he has time.
- **Phone Check** – Lynn Brandl will review phone bill to make sure we are paying for only 2 cell lines (church & PreSchool) and wifi. Wifi may need more bandwidth, which increases cost. Pastor Amy may need a cell phone – we will deal with that as the work unfolds.
- **Inspections** – Lynn Brandl has requested that Christine Nitz develop a schedule/process and check pricing for the variety of annual inspections we need (sprinklers, alarms, extinguishers, back flow, general safety). Backflow valve has dripped since it was replaced last fall – American Backflow says it will cost at least \$750. Sprinkler system is aging and some of the sprinkler heads are corroding and may begin to fail/leak.
- **Partner Status** – Scouts had a busy summer; justWorship will be on retreat during August 27 activities; added another 12-step group on Saturday at 8 a.m.; Saturday 3 p.m. group seems to have disbanded. Outside groups fill out information sheet and are asked to give \$40 per month. justWorship donates more out of their own generosity.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

PICNIC SET UP – Saturday, August 26 at 1 p.m. (bring canopies, food, etc.)

CHURCH PICNIC/OPEN HOUSE – Sunday, August 27 (Amy Becker-Perez scheduled as Supply Pastor)

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING? – Sunday, September 17 after worship?

PASTOR INSTALLATION and/pr CELEBRATION – September? October? TBD by Pastor Amy

NEXT CONGREGATION MEETING – TBA

ADJOURN: *Motion made by Rob Jost; Seconded by Lois Menis. Adjourned at 11:50 a.m. with The Lord's Prayer*

Thank you all for your faithful service.

God's work – Our hands.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Brandl