

## Council Minutes

December 20th, 2021

6:00 pm In person

Attending: Cindy Toppin, Marjorie Peterson, Bruce Arndtson, Katy Lindberg, Sadie Reiner and Pastor Geier, David Weisser, Abbie Schultz, Deborah Dreher, and Pam Hoffman

### Call to Order 6 pm

Motion was made to approve November minutes. Pam gave motion to approve and Bruce made the second. Motion carried.

### Treasurer Deborah Dreher

Council Action Required

St. Philip's Lutheran Church continues to be in a strong financial position. General Giving, Capital Giving and Misc. Giving are 8.5% over Budget, and Expenses are 3.4% below Budget.

Budget Process 2022: FMT completed the 2022 Budget Worksheet. Deborah presented the Worksheet and answered question from the Council. A motion was made to accept the 2022 proposed budget by Marjorie, Pam made a second and the motion passed.

Motion was made to approve Novembers Financial report. Bruce approved, Katy gave a second. Motion passed.

### Vice President Sadie Reiners

Nothing to report

Serving ministries Pam Hoffman

Fellowship

No action needed items.

Christmas greetings are being sent to over 20 members who are shut-ins or have lost a family member.

The Scout Troop donated Christmas greens to the church. Two have are the altar and we gave one each to Dolly, Mary Lou and Lynn.

A Max Lucado book "Pocket Prayers" has been ordered for High School Graduates to be mailed out in the winter.

### Personnel Report Cindy Toppin

#### HR Report

Nothing new to report.

No council action needed.

## Learning ministries Abby Schultz

### Preschool Notes:

"We really have very little to report on this month and canceled our meeting.

\*Numbers are holding at 46 spots filled

\*Christmas program will be Tuesday the 21 at 5:30 and 6:30."

### Faith Formation Notes:

"We did not have a faith formation team meeting this month so I don't have any notes for the year. We're just trying to finish up Christmas stuff. 😊"

### ASG:

Attached - November meeting.

Adult Spiritual Growth minutes 11/22/2021

Cindy Toppin's book group on the Screwtape Letters and the Science and Faith Sunday Forum are going well. Cindy stopped by as we were meeting and says that 8-9 people have continued to attend after a slightly larger group the first Sunday. The Science and Faith had 12 the first Sunday but only 6 the second Sunday, perhaps due to the technical problems with Zoom the first Sunday. Plans are that it will be back fully in person after a break for Thanksgiving weekend.

Kendi, How to Be an Anti-Racist book study in January: Pastor will put the questions from the study guide onto PowerPoint slides and be the main facilitator. Planning on doing on Sunday morning, could do another time as well if enough interest. Action items: Pastor Geier to put something in worship announcements so people can get the book in time for January. Most people interested probably are either worshipping in person or on line, so should see that announcement, but should go in the January newsletter, too. (See comment on how to get the books below)

Jennie talked to the library about getting copies of the book: She has a request in to put a "hold in the "book group" bag of 10 books for December 28, aiming to pick it up approximately Jan 6. This will only work if no one requests it before Dec 28th, as it can only be checked out for 6 weeks with no renewals. There is only one book group bag, so some risk it could be checked out when we want it, or on hold so we would not be able to "return" and "re-check out" the empty bag part way through the book study. There are LOTS of copies in the Dakota County library system. Would recommend that INDIVIDUALS request their own copies about Dec 28th, so they would probably be able to pick them up the week before the first session. Unless there were a real run on requests so that there was a "Hold" on their particular book, their copies would automatically renew for 3 more weeks after their original 3 weeks TWICE, giving them until the end of February, when the group would be done.

What in Lent? Another Lenten Book Study? Jennie to check with the people in Cindy's book group about interest.

Ideas for Sunday for after the How to Be an Anti-Racist book study:

1. Faith and vocation series – how we see work as a calling. Pastor not available in Lent, one thought to do this then, with people from the congregation speaking about how their faith and work intersect, like a teacher, a health care provider, someone in public safety, someone in a small business, etc. Another option, Pastor Geier

highly recommends a book: Luther on Vocation , by Gustaf Wingren Pastor has a copy, Jennie is trying to get one by inter-library loan as the Dakota Co Library system does not have it.

2. Mission May: someone from the places our tithe supports? Either the Guatemalan or Tanzanian sister congregation projects? Update on Bernita's neice's mission in India or the one Jennie has worked in in Bangladesh?

Do we want something on Afghan Refugees? Do we need to be doing anything for finding furniture/housewares? Pastor thought he remembered seeing something about needing to collect furniture for the Afghanees being resettled.

3. Retreats: Pastor again recommended the Schaar's Bluff Gathering Center as a location. Men's? Maybe Paul Hellen or men's renewal group to organize?

Women had expressed interest in another one in either the spring or fall of 2022. Possibly WELCA to organize?

Pastor mentioned probably still masking in spring, maybe not by fall as a possible reason to delay until Fall.'

No meeting planned for December due to the Christmas holidays, next meeting in January. Do we need to meet again about plans for Lent BEFORE the February newsletter deadline, though? Otherwise, next meeting January, 24, 2022.

### **Worship & Music Report Marjorie Peterson**

Worship and Music - Marjorie Peterson

Meeting held 12-07-21

No action required.

More children have been present at services recently. We are so pleased to have Nathan leading music giving Noreen due breaks.

Christmas

Poinsettias will be set up the morning of the 23rd. Announcements will be made about taking them home after the 5PM service on the 24th. It is expected that the 3PM service will have greater attendance. Individual candles will be used for both services.

Thank you to the Scouts for donating the wreaths outside the front doors and the baskets of greenery which were placed on the altar.

Because there is presently only one headset microphone available, John Diischer requested that two be purchased at a cost of \$500-\$700 each. There are funds remaining in our budgets and there are some designated funds available also.

A guest preacher from the synod will be solicited for a January Sunday. Camp Sunday is set for January 23rd.

Live Control materials have arrived and installers are being contacted.

## Communication and Marketing Bruce Arndtson

No meeting, nothing to report. Bruce and the Team are considering how to hold all the relevant meetings to include ZOOM.

### Pastors Report

Pastor Geier – December 2021 Council Report

- First of all, thank you for your leadership and for your caring enough about me to throw my exhortations to “take care of yourself” back in my face.
- Our four ASG sessions on faith and science had moderate attendance but led to good discussions.
- Confirmation has continued with uneven attendance.
- We have signed a one-year contract with LiveControl for our livestreaming ministry. The hardware was installed on December 14th and we had our installation check meeting on the 15th and can now schedule produced events and static events. Produced events are those where both cameras are used, and an offsite technician controls the various shots. A static event is where there is a single wide shot of the chancel area that does not require an off-site technician. We are contracted for 55 produced events and unlimited static events. I anticipate that we will schedule static events for funerals and mid-week Lenten Services, etc.
- One setback is that to use the graphics sharing capability (for which we are paying), we are needing to upgrade from a box full of Legos to the millennial falcon. This is the equivalent of going from this: to this: . John Diischer is currently learning the new software so that he can teach it to me and the volunteers who work in the tech booth. In the meantime we will be having one of the cameras focus on one of the screens for those shots where lyrics, scripture or prayers need to be shared.
- Looking forward, I am planning to be out of the office the week after Christmas but will not miss a Sunday.
- Bishop Lull will be visiting and preaching on January 9th.
- I will also be starting a 6-week Adult Spiritual Growth series on Ibram X. Kendi’s book How to be an Anti-Racist.

New business: In regards to the 10% capital giving. Rather than only giving the money to one organization it will now be divided between the three prosed charities in the amount of 25%. 15% & 10% of the total in each of the 2 categories.

Submitted by Katy Lindberg