

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Council & Board Minutes**

**Church Council Meeting, May 10, 2022**

**Present:** Pastor Russ Leeper, Doug Holm, Judy Hughes, Ron James, Kathy Rogotzke, Jake Gassman, Kurt Hoeft, Julie Begemann, Janet Petefish, Linda Hughes, Josh Johnson

**Agenda:** No changes to the agenda

**Council Minutes:** Kurt moved to approve the minutes, Julie seconded, motion passed

**Pastor's Report:**

- Pastor Russ reported that the continuing education he attended was very good, there was a focus on managing anxiety that is very timely and beneficial. He plans to work on continuing with professional development/continuing education.
- New members: Alison Pettit and her children: Hunter Northrop, Laila Northrop, Samuel Northrop, and Finley Pettit. Ron moved to approved new members, Janet seconded, motion passed.
- Pastor Russ led a sharing of how council members viewed our mission of “God’s Love in Action”:
  - Youth participation and events that create a positive impact on community and congregation;
  - Providing access by means of the elevator/lift in the church;
  - Openness to new ideas and ways of doing things that may be different (flexibility and adaptability);
  - Finding ways of welcoming people, inviting people who are not members; Outreach
  - Fellowship; identifying ways to make people feel welcome, communication, being visible in community, model of volunteerism in the community; helping hands.
- Pastor Russ will categorize the feedback.

**Financial Report:** Linda will have her hip replaced next week. Karol Carpenter will be filling in to help while Linda is out. Linda has been revising list of steps and tasks for the position. The last Sunday of May (memorial weekend) both Linda and Karol will be gone; so, the offering for that Sunday will be counted the following week when they are back. Linda reviewed the monthly financial report: incomes are slightly above the projections. Linda shared a balance sheet of the different accounts for investments. Linda will work with Jeremy Heyer on reviewing our investments and determining whether some accounts can be combined. Judy moved and Jake seconded to approve financial report, motion passed

**Monthly Benevolence:** Ron suggested benevolence go to help with gas for the youth trip to North Dakota, Doug seconded, motion passed.

**Board Reports:**

**Building and Grounds**—no meeting; they are working on getting ready for concrete work;

**Deacons:** recommended not having a service on Christmas day—Sunday, December 25. Kurt moved and Ron seconded, motion passed.

**Family:** Julie reported 26 kids attended the Easter egg event—suggestion was to have it in the afternoon to avoid conflicts with soccer in the morning; will be setting dates for canoe/kayak float this summer;

**Youth:** Palm Sunday breakfast went well raised \$1,327 for youth individual accounts, had a bonus fun night for confirmation kids on May 4; 21 youth to North Dakota Mission Trip (July 5 – 9), contacting youth to help with spring cleanup day on Saturday, May 14, planning an afternoon picnic at Cedar Springs Camp;

**Stewardship:** Did not meet; Judy reported that there is a live wire in the kitchen by the sink, Pastor Russ will check with Jamie.

Judy reported that there is a group of women that are interested in:

- The kitchen deeply cleaned every three months—there is no longer a cleaning day to take care of it;
- fireside room has become a storage area would like to update the books there for all ages;
- Clothing room—collaborate with Slingers community Closet—it is by appointment—would like to be open more hours; would like coat racks to help organize what is there better—especially coats.

**Parish Ed:** Jake reported that VBS usually has 60 – 65 kids attend; overall cost about \$1400. There are seven churches offering VBS; IC is offering it the same week as St. Johns (June 15 – 17) — but in the mornings; moving the dates to the evening has caused a conflict with youth softball and baseball games; have workers lined up. There were 16 kids signed up for the after-school kids program.

**Finance:** Ron moved, and Julie seconded to appoint Jeremy Heyer to finance board; Ron moved, and Kurt seconded to add Karol Carpenter signature to bank accounts to sign.

**Preschool:** The Preschool board will pursue the voluntary statewide preschool program partnering with the school; Whitney and Pastor Russ will meet with the principal to partner with the state-wide program then enrollment will be free; this may expand enrollment; can still be a faith-based preschool program;

**150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee:** Julie, Kurt, Josh, and Judy will help frost the rolls, plate cinnamon rolls for Sunday. She ordered pens to hand out on Father's Day, June 19; Doug will bring that to the youth board to help with handing them out. Janet has a list of supplies needed for continuing to make crafts for 150<sup>th</sup> celebration in October.

**Capital Improvements:** Julie reported that Schumackers Elevator Company costs \$83,754 for a small elevator covering 2 floors; Premier Lifts cost is \$41,300 for a 2-floor lift (3 stops) accommodates 1 wheelchair and 2 people in the office (Kathy's office). These costs do not include installation and other work needed to prepare the space. They are working on getting bids for the other work needed to install it. There are \$600 annual maintenance/inspection fees.

**Lifeline Audio:** Pastor Russ reported that the wireless microphones approved last fall for purchase—are on back order until April or May of next year. The company offered two other options: purchase similar microphones for \$250 over what we had approved last year, could probably have them by June, or for a cost of \$100 more and could have them by then end of this year. Kurt moved and Ron seconded to spend \$250 more for the microphones.

**Personnel Committee:** Pastor Russ and Josh met to go over his evaluation; the executive board (personnel committee) will work with Pastor Russ in meeting with the staff. Pastor Russ identified areas of improving in supervising and evaluating staff; managing stress; maintaining a healthy work/life balance; continuing education, reading books, networking with other pastors.

**Synod Assembly:** No volunteers yet—Josh will announce it on Sunday. Please email Josh names of people who would be good candidates.

**Adjournment:** Julie moved; Ron seconded to adjourn

Closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, June 14, 6:00 p.m.—Parish Hall

## **St John Finance Board Minutes May 10, 2022**

Present: Greig Grimm, Karol Carpenter, Georgena Miller, Ron James Council Representative, Pastor Russ Leeper, Linda Hughes Business Manager, Josh Johnson Council President, and Jeremy Heyer.

Due to there not being a quorum of members minimal business was presented.

Pastor Leeper opened the meeting with a prayer at 5:00 PM in the Chapel Room.

Karol Carpenter moved to approve the agenda; Georgena Miller seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Georgena Miller moved to approve the minutes from the April 5, 2022, meeting, Karol Carpenter second the motion. Motion Carried.

### **Bills and Financial Update**

Linda Hughes presented the bills and financial update. The church is at a 36.23% of income for the year and 33.45% for expenditures. Karol Carpenter made a motion to approve the payment of the bills, Georgena Miller second the motion. Motion Carries.

### **Old Business**

- A. President Greig Grimm asked Jeremy Heyer to attend the meeting.
- B. Karol Carpenter had checked with Trent Parker on the possibility of adding a second computer for finance, but decision was, it was not needed.

### **New Business**

- A. Richard Olesen has resigned his position on the Finance Board. Jeremy Heyer has offered to complete Richard's term pending approval by the church council.
- B. It was noted the payment for cans from the Redemption Center has been delayed due to government remittance to the Redemption Facilities.
- C. Linda Hughes informed the Finance Board she will be having a hip replacement on May 17 so may be off for up to 6 weeks for recovery. Linda has been training Karol to take over in her absence, however due to unfortunate timing Karol will also be gone during part of Linda's leave. They have worked together to find solutions to financial needs that may arise in both their absence.
- D. Pastor Russ has asked each of us to think and pray about how God is calling us each personally to live out our Mission Statement of God's Love in Action.
- E. Since we were missing two board members, we will revisit at the next meeting the best day and time for our monthly meetings.

Pastor Russ reported his continuing education conference was an excellent presentation on staying positive, and how no one is exempt from the negativity that can be prevalent in our church, home, and workplace. He also reported the 2 wireless mics for the church that had been previously ordered are now not expected to be shipped until May/June 2023. The council will decide on other possible options for these mics.

Ron James from Council reported they are working on the new crosses out front of the church as well as some much-needed concrete repair in the parking lot.

Next Meeting June 14, 2022, at 5:00 PM at the church.

Karol Carpenter made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Georgena Miller second the motion. Motion Carries.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karol Carpenter  
Finance Board

## **Family Board, May 15, 2022**

### **Old Business:**

1. Board Secretary – still need a volunteer
2. Canoe/Kayak Trip
  - a. Discussed working together with Youth Board on this event
  - b. Laurie will start an email with both boards so we can have large group discussion

### **New Business**

1. Discussed having a group attend a performance of the passion play during Lent
2. Discussed trying to find times that people can attend Sunday School/Confirmation/worship services
3. Clothing Sale -we talked about wanting to do this event and if we will have the volunteers to accomplish this event – Laurie will email board members to see who will commit to helping

**Next meeting June 22 via email**

## **Youth Board Meeting Minutes, May 1, 2022**

**Present:** Ann Prichard, Lydia Johnson, Sydney Hinz, Jessie Holm, Cooper Holm (Youth), Doug Holm (Council)

### **Old Business:**

1. St. John Youth T-Shirts – Laurie/Sonja working on this
  - a. Sonja said \$10 youth sizes, \$13 S-XL, \$14.50 for XXL+
  - b. Charge \$12 for youth, \$15 for adult sizes
  - c. She'll need at least 2 weeks after we submit orders to her
  - d. Order forms on bulletin board and in Narthex, emails to parents, Facebook post
2. Bonus Fun Night on 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor for Confirmation kids – May 4- Doug, Greg and Josh helping (snacks & drink provided)
3. North Dakota Mission Trip: July 5-9, 2022
  - a. Completed 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students eligible (and their friends)
  - b. Twenty-one youth signed up so far
4. Palm Sunday Breakfast – April 10<sup>th</sup>, 8-11:30am
  - a. The donations of \$1327 going into youth individual accounts
  - b. Went smoothly, many positive comments

### **New Business:**

1. Bake Sale – Sunday June 12, 2022
  - a. Bake pies, etc. on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at church
  - b. Would there be any volunteers in the Congregation that would like to help the Youth make/bake this day?
2. Spring Clean Up Day – Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Could an email be sent out to all and see if some older students would like to get Silver Cord hours.
3. Pool Day this summer(?) - All youth invited (5<sup>th</sup> on up?) If younger than 5<sup>th</sup>, then they would need to be accompanied by an adult. Use the church bus to transport. Area pools - Nora Springs (Lydia will contact), New Hampton (Ann will contact) Rockwell (Jessie will contact). Would they do a discount for a church group? Also put on Facebook, and maybe create it as an event.
4. Cedar Springs Camp(?) - Lydia will contact them. Maybe have a picnic and have a fun afternoon there after church.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer at 11:33 am.

Next Meeting Date: **Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am** in the Chapel