

Chisago Lake Evangelical Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting
August 23, 2018

Meeting called to order by Melissa Rambow at 7:26.

Opening Prayer/Evening Meditation: Devotions by Pastor Taryn based on John 6

Members Present: Dave Reed, Gloria Peterson, Lee Peterson, Melissa Rambow, Janie Briggs, Anna Burch, Sue Abrahamson, Chris Ruser, Pastor Taryn

Members Absent: Anna Burch and Dale Bahn

Check In: Highs and Lows

Approval of the Agenda: Gloria Peterson requested to add a communion discussion to new business. Lee Peterson requested to add a historical committee report. Pastor Taryn requested that we add "Theme for the Year" to new business. Chris Ruser moved to approve the agenda as amended. All in favor. The agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes: Under the "Welcome Home" Committee Report, Pastor Taryn's start date was listed as August 5th, but it should have read August 1st. Sue Abrahamson motions to approve the minutes as amended. Dave Reed seconds. All in favor. Minutes are approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report:

Our net deficit on the year is \$8,483. Please be reminded that everything over \$100 needs a voucher/pre-approval. Council discussed the ProGuard bills which have been higher due to extra cleaning duties beyond their contract.

Pastor's Report:

- Pastoral Activities: 7 pastoral visits, 3 nursing home visits, 2 home visits, 8 church/synod meetings, 1 baptism, 2 church activities, and 3 phone visits
- Other Notes from Pastor Taryn:
 - THANK YOU for the warm welcome, all the fabulous projects as the parsonage, and for making us feel at home! Truly grateful.
 - Learning LOTS by sitting in with committees, home visits, and pastoral conversations.
 - Weekly News & Events by email
 - Working with Stacy to plan Rally Sunday/Installation and God's Work Our Hands Sunday
 - Participating with Chisago Lakes Area Lutheran Churches Cooperative
 - Tweaking staff meetings--now on Tuesdays at 11 am, shifting the agenda a bit
 - Planning to get the personnel committee going again
 - A text Study and Centering Prayer group will be starting this fall for the local clergy

- Planning an Adult Forum for Sunday mornings. The first one will start September 23 for three weeks: “Who Is Pastor Taryn??”--Faith Story, hopes/dreams for God’s church, inviting folks to think of their own
- Mission Moment: National Night Out

Committee Reports

- Christian Education
 - Rally Sunday Activities (to take place after the 9:30 service)
 - There will be games for children and an opportunity to meet their teacher.
 - Children will be able to create decor for the Sunday School Area
 - God’s Work Our Hands
 - Possible ideas/activities for children: tie quilts, cards for Meals on Wheels, welcome notes for visitors
 - Christian Education is in the beginning stages of planning some fall family activities
 - The planning has begun for the Teddy Bear Picnic which welcomes family children who will be going to their first Sunday School class (3/ 4 year olds). Families will participate in a church scavenger hunt among other activities.
 - Christian Education asks for councils permission to paint a hand tree (adult paints trunk, families add handprints as leaves) on the lower level hallway. Council approves.
- Historical
 - Question for Historical Committee: Is there a process for rotating/moving the art in the church? At this time there is no official process, council asks that historical committee make a recommendation to council for a process for this.
- Property
 - Air conditioning
 - On the request of council, property pursued additional bids for air conditioning in the office. Bids were received from Cool Air Mechanical, Commercial Plumbing and Heating, and Aerotek. The bids were close.
 - Chris Ruser moves to accept the recommendation of property to accept the bid from Aerotek and approach 3M for the funding. Gloria Peterson seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.
 - Parsonage
 - The only project left to finish in the parsonage is insulation in the attic (needed to be done due to bat guano). Bids have been pursued for this project.
 - For a full list of projects done in the parsonage, please refer to the July minutes or see a member of the property committee/the office
- Welcome Home
 - Currently, members have donated \$22,710.00. 3M agreed to match \$2,500 which brings our total money raised to \$34,710.
 - There were unexpected costs in parsonage repairs which necessitates spending around \$3,000-\$5,000 more.
- Pig Roast
 - We served 300. This event has been growing each year
 - Donations were around \$650. 3M used outreach money to cover the additional costs (about \$200).

- Thank you to all who helped serve and set up.

Old Business

- Rally Sunday: one service at 9:30
 - Activities for this Sunday include: Blessing of the backpacks and a school supply offering
 - A brunch will follow this 9:30 service (please see the bulletin board across from the office if you would like to bring something),
 - Pastor Taryn's installation will be during the service
 - There will be an Installation of Sunday School teachers
- God's Work Our Hands
 - Christian Education will have special projects (see above in the Children's Ministry report)
 - Property has suggested projects: weed and re-mulch the area out by the CLLC sign, painting the railing, and possible other options
 - God's Work Our Hands t-shirt will be available. A \$5 donation is suggested.

New Business

- Dinner Theatre Opportunity
 - A church member purchased the scripts for the two-act dinner theatre play called *The Case of the Show-Stopping Nun Nabber* as an opportunity for CLLC members to perform as a social event or fundraiser
 - Council is asking that any members who are interested in performing and/or organizing to please contact a council member
- Church Directory
 - Lifetouch contacted CLLC about the creation of a new church directory
 - Lifetouch gives an option for a digital format which would accompany a smaller, hard copy version. This option would allow the directory to be updated anytime there are 15 families (or more) that are wanting to update/be included in the directory, they will come back and reshoot. If there is another organization that would be updating locally, CLLC could tag on the other organization's shoot and be added to our digital directory.
 - Lifetouch dates are available in November which would allow families to order pictures in time for Christmas if they wished. Members who leave for the winter and would be gone prior to November, could do pictures locally with another organization in October or when they get back
 - Council also discussed a local option for the church directory.
 - Council will follow up with Lifetouch for more details
- Office Technology
 - Terry from Primotech came to follow up on some computer issues that have been ongoing with the church accountant's computer and to examine adding Pastor Taryn's laptop to the church network. A discussion ensued as to how the staff accesses and uses church documents, programs, and networks, both at church and at home. A VPN configuration was discussed which would allow staff to access the church drive via a cloud that was secure as well as access programs such as Shelby (the church's current database)

- A quote was received for \$604.63 to replace the accountant's computer, connect Pastor Taryn to the church's server (only accessed in the church), and support set-up.
- A quote was received for \$915.34 for a VPN server, ethernet router, and set-up fee
 - Question raised by council member: would the remote access be only for four staff members (secretary, accountant, pastor, and christian education), or could we add more if needed?
- A question was raised that if CLLC ever used a different database than Shelby, would the other database be able to accessed via the remote access (yes, it would).
 - Because Shelby is outdated in terms of use, Pastor Taryn will be looking into what other churches are using
- Janie Briggs motions to accept the two bids from Terry at Primotech which would allow for a new computer for the church accountant, a VPN configuration, set up support, and the addition of Pastor Taryn's laptop the church network. Dave Reed seconds.
 - Discussion:
 - Do we need other bids? No, this is our preferred vendor and other vendors are not readily available.
 - Our phone and internet are currently through Frontier. By having internet through Midco, it would allow CLLC to have their own domain (all emails for staff would go to one @address rather than different addresses. For example: PastorTaryn@CLLCchurch)
 - The support for this would come from Terry rather than Midco. CLLC could look into switching the phone to Midco as well.
 - Discussion ends. All in favor. Motion passes.
- Church Website
 - Our current website is a Wordpress which is set up as primarily as a blog that can be orientated as a website. It may be more user-friendly for both site designers and users to use a different format.
 - Discussion ensued about what we use the website for
 - Pastor Taryn will look into prices for other site formats as well as check in with the site creator to learn more about the site's history.
- Official Church Logo
 - Pastor Taryn was looking if there was an official church logo she should be using and found several logos have been used on official church documents and envelopes.
 - Council looked at a logo created around the time of the 160th anniversary, gave feedback, and recommended to pursue an official logo
 - Council would like to thank Nick Barr for helping on this project
- New Song Service (contemporary service)
 - Niki Pepper will be leaving us on August 31st as she has weekend gigs which make a Sunday morning service difficult with the commute
 - After gently persuading her husband, Christoph, who has a background in music education, Pastor Taryn reported he would be willing to serve as interim worship coordinator for the New Song (contemporary) service.
 - CLLC members would be asked to help provide back-up
 - Council asks personnel to look at the job description for worship coordinator and make a recommendation to council on where to go next

- Pastor Taryn suggested holding the New Song Service in Fellowship Hall based on the smaller numbers and that the service was held there a couple times during the summer due to weather. Council approves.
- Consecration Sunday: November 11th
 - Pastor Taryn suggested using the three Sunday's prior to talk about stewardship and having a possible guest pastor for Consecration Sunday (typical for many churches)
 - More details to come
- Communion
 - The new procedure for communion will be to serve the congregation first. Servers and helpers will be served after.
- Theme for the Year
 - Pastor Taryn suggested, "We Are a Church Together" as a theme for this year. Council approved.

Parting Thoughts

- Visitor Bags
 - Pastor Taryn is working on a brochure about CLLC to let visitors know a little about us as a church. This brochure would be included in a visitor's bag. More details to come.
- Council expressed their appreciation to Pastor Taryn for coming and accepting this call.

Closing Prayer/Adjournment Lee Peterson motions to adjourn at 10:22. Dave Reed seconds. All in favor. The meeting is adjourned.

*Next meeting will be September 20th . Dale Bahn will have treats
Respectfully submitted,
Janie Briggs*