

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2024

The meeting was called to order by council President Su Erickson at 10:30 a.m., followed by a prayer read by council member Judy Turpen.

PRESENT: Su Erickson, Randy Heibel, Judy Turpen, John Brown, Magan Ratafsky, Carol Moonan, Ann Bruce, Kathy Williams, Jim Erickson, Pastor Dr. Jeff Gallen, and Jo-Ann Wordell.

ABSENT AND EXCUSED: Gene Myers and Judy Turnen.

GUEST SPEAKER: Pastor Phil Gustafson, on behalf of the ELCA Grand Canyon Synod transition team, spoke to the council members regarding the transition process to select a pastor for CELC. Pastor Gustafson, who has been assigned by the Synod to serve as our Transition Coach, shared a power point presentation explaining the selection process, highlighting the important points on which the council should focus. He noted that the council should put in writing "where we [the congregation] are vs. where we [the congregation] want to be". It will also be important for the council to highlight its strengths as well as weaknesses. Pastor Gustafson noted that it is not uncommon for a congregation to experience an interim pastor until a permanent pastor has accepted a call. The Synod does offer a transition consultant for hire; the council will need to determine if that will be necessary. And finally, Pastor Gustafson stressed that transparency is the key to keeping the congregation members informed of the ongoing process of selecting a replacement pastor.

The council held a brief discussion after the presentation. A transition team of 5-7 members will be formed. Ann Bruce has agreed to chair that team, and Judy Turpen will be the council liaison. Council agreed that regular and intentional communications to the congregation about the transition are important.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: A motion was made by Judy Turpen and seconded by Carol Moonan to approve the minutes from the January 14, 2024 and the February 4, 2024 meetings. There were no additions or corrections, and the minutes were approved as written.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: John Brown and Ann Bruce presented the January and February financial reports.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Jim Erickson presented a proposal from Johnson Controls to replace the current Brivo door access system for both buildings. The proposal included three options. After discussing the three options, the council agreed to go forward with Option B which allows for upfront cost of \$1,300.00, with an annual cost of \$2,824.20. We will recognize a significant savings, as well as own the equipment. The council asked Jim to inquire whether a larger upfront cost would be possible to reduce the annual cost; Jim will make this inquiry.

MOTION: A motion was made by Magan Ratalosky and seconded by Carol Moonan to accept Option B from Johnson Controls to update the access system to both buildings (Option B = \$1,300.00 upfront, \$2,824.20 annual cost, and \$15,421.00 for a 5-year cost). There were no objections, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ann Bruce volunteered to be the delegate to the Synod Assembly which is scheduled for June 13-15, 2024; the delegates' expenses will be paid for. Su will ask for other volunteers from the congregation.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Buildings and Grounds (Randy Heibel) – Randy reported that the solar project is still ongoing. In addition, the turf which has been in storage will need to be installed, and the bench is nearly finished and will be put back together soon.

Evangelism - (Su reported in Judy Turnen's absence) A new member orientation is scheduled for April 13, 2024.

Health (Kathy Williams) – Kathy recommended that the four medical waste deposit containers should be replaced, as well as the two first aid kits. The council gave Kathy authorization to complete this task.

Stewardship (Judy Turpen) – Judy reported that the time and talent handout for new members is being updated.

Education (Magan Ratalosky) – Magan reported that there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the children this year at the Easter breakfast.

Fellowship – none

Outreach (Su Erickson) – Su reported that there are now 75 families that participate in the weekly Outreach Program. In addition, the March Madness fund raiser will occur during the upcoming basketball playoffs.

Worship (Carol Moonan) – Carol reported that she has obtained an usher and communion assistant for the 7 a.m. Easter Sunday service. In addition, Carol, Judy Turnen, and Su are updating the CELC brochure for visitors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next council meeting will be held on April 21, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER: Magan made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Carol. Pastor Gallen closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo-Ann Wordell, Council Secretary