

## Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

### Council Meeting Minutes

March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

#### Called to order by Su Erickson at 10:23am

- In attendance: Cher Johnson, Jim Harmon, Judy Turpen, Joanne Mueske, Kathy Williams, Judy Turnen, Pastor Jeff Gallen, Ann Bruce, Randy Heibel, John Brown, Magan Ratafsky, and Su Erickson.
- Vacant position: Youth Ministry

**Approval of Minutes from February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023:** Motion to approve by Randy Heibel. Seconded by John Brown.

- Changes to minutes:
  - Stewardship changed to 'time, talent and treasure'. Remove 'offerings'.
  - Kathy/Health update moved from AED to ADE.

#### Treasury Report

- Expenses were up driven by property maintenance and salary (hours worked).
- \$145,000 designation funds and \$78,000 in legacy funds; John proposing to put \$90,000 in a 3-month Chase CD at 3% interest. Council in alignment. John will move funds this coming week.

#### Council Report Outs

- Randy/ Facility Maintenance:
  - Water usage has increased; Randy had city come out to review the usage meter. Irrigation concerns have been driver of some increased usage.
  - Easter banner has been put out to highlight upcoming service times.
  - Proposal to install a new irrigation system that the city provides. The new box would be connected to CELC network and can be controlled remotely. There is also a feature to read the weather and adjust the watering schedule. The cost to install is up to CELC, but box is provided to CELC at no charge.
- Magan/Education:
  - Working on the Easter egg hunt. Need to pick up eggs and treats. No support needed.
- Judy/Evangelism:
  - She is assigning new members to current CELC members to handle getting notices out for milestones such as anniversaries, birthdays, etc.
  - She is also working on a committee to handle special notices to CELC members such as illness, deaths, health concerns, etc.
- Cher/Fellowship:
  - Recruiting folks to bring food items for Easter Brunch, set-up/clean-up, and servers.
- Kathy/Health:
  - AED training sign-up sheet has been distributed.
  - CPR training is on hold until we get members to sign up.

- Su/Outreach:
  - Money raised from Super Bowl will be used for soup and food pantry items. Food pantry items will be focused on items we cannot get from St. Mary's.
  - Cereal brackets have been rolled out to the congregation. Great success in the past and expect the same. Focus around "healthy" cereals (i.e. Rice Krispies, Cheerios, Raisin Bran)
  - Looking at having LSS-SW come in to speak more about opportunities and offerings of their services.
  - Su working on a calendar for future events around holidays (i.e. Mother's Day, Father's Day, Advent, etc.). Trying to put focus on other events/options of outreach outside of the food pantry.
- Judy/Stewardship:
  - WELCA (Women of ELCA) event is upcoming, which Judy is planning to attend. There is a separate document listing the details of the event including costs and expectations.
- Joanne/Worship:
  - Assistant ministers came up as an idea to bring back. Pastor is open to the idea, but he would like to open this to folks that have not participated in the past to see if there is other interest.

### **Unfinished Business**

- Constitutional and by-laws have been sent to the Synod. The Synod had some feedback on things needing further review.
- Following up on the previous idea of purchasing a Square to process credit card payments. Jim Erickson provided some feedback on options in the Staff Meeting. Magan had an idea for Venmo and/or using a QR code. There is further review needed- keep on future agenda items.
- Council retreat dates are pending. Targeting April 15, 22, or 29. Idea for having a facilitator present. Su to follow up on dates with location options. Pastor to investigate Spirit in the Desert as an option for location.

### **New Business**

- Audit report has been completed. Thank you to Ann and John for completing! Suggestion to have an accountant or someone with financial background on the committee next year.
  - Moving forward audit report findings need to be presented to congregation.
  - Conversations around the lock box and how money is stored. Council agrees on installing a lock box to create additional security measure.
- Delegates for Grand Canyon Synod are needed. Dates of event are June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Attendees do not need to be someone from council.
- Ihelp and outreach program:
  - There are ideas to have someone to represent the program to answer questions and provide feedback on what is happening with the program. There are concerns about making our full congregation aware of all the active efforts around outreach such as the Boutique, etc.
  - Idea to have someone from LSS-SW come in and speak about how the iHelp program runs, how people are selected to participate, etc.

- Judy is requesting to have someone from the congregation as a liaison of the program and CELC to report out on weekly updates such as dietary needs, change in number of attendees, etc.
- Council coffee chats. Ideas to have a few “CELC Council Representative” name tags, so we can drive engagement from congregation to council. Reminder to council members to bring the ideas/feedback/notes, back to council in a timely manner to address and/or add to council agenda.

**Announcements: Next council meeting is pending alignment of council retreat date.**

**Closing Prayer by Pastor Jeff**

**Council meeting adjourned at 11:35 by Randy Heibel. Seconded by Cher Johnson.**

Respectfully submitted, Magan Ratalsky, Secretary