

St. John-St. Matthew-Emanuel Lutheran Church

Electronic Council Meeting on Zoom – Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Present: Pastor David Parsons, Marc Youngblood, Tom Reiner, Andrew Kjoller, Barbara Gruenburg, Fran Onne-Fong, Anne Voorhies, Joseph Militello, Yonni Matson, Tammy Johnson, Katherine Anderson, Sarah Sampson.

A quorum was present.

Excused Absence: Nitza Wagoner

Also Present: Deacon Eric Johnson

Prayer: Opening prayer was led by Pastor Parsons.

The meeting was called to order at 7:39 pm.

Secretary: Fran Onne-Fong

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made, seconded and adopted to approve the amended agenda as presented.

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes : A motion was made, seconded and adopted to approve the minutes as amended of the Council's meeting held on November 12, 2020.

Reports:

Pastor's Report: Pastor Parsons presented an oral report to the Council. He reported a well attended Advent Craft Party of more than 35 people and that it went very well. Thanks to Nadine Cordes, Jolynn Johnson, Carrie Thompson and Katherine Anderson for their help in putting the craft kits together and making the virtual party a success along with Mary Fasano's Christmas Carol sing-along.

There were 35 donations to the Seafarers and International House Christmas-at-Sea ministry which Pastor Parsons delivered and they were grateful for.

The AA group will continue to meet virtually rather than beginning to meet in person in the social hall.

Finance: The clerical error in the July to August 2020 financial report was corrected. Tammy Johnson, Treasurer, presented the July through October 2020 financial report. She noted we are spending more than we are taking in but

our year to date numbers were good. Andrew Kjoller, Vice President, reported that we have had good offerings that were still on par with last year.

Worship & Music: There will be an outdoor Christmas eve service in Prospect Park offered at 4:00 pm which will include the Christmas story and singing Christmas carols. There will be only one worship service online Christmas Eve at 7:30 pm. Church service on Sunday, December 27th, will still occur. There was discussion of how best to help Mary Fasano, the music director, to relieve her vocal fatigue during services.

Youth: Carrie Thompson will help with videotaping the children's dances. This will be a heartfelt production of the Christmas Pageant.

New Business: The nominating committee for new or continuing Council Members completing their terms will be Fran Onne-Fong & Tammy Johnson.

There will be a Proclamation inscribed with beautiful calligraphy presented to Gene & Charisse Hiigel for their vital involvement in our church community because they will be leaving St. JME. They will be moving to Washington, DC in the middle of this December.

It has been our tradition at St. JME to raise funds during Advent to share out of our abundance with our neighbors around the world. We are suggesting contributions to the ELCA Good Gifts program to the congregation.

Year End bonuses for 2020 were discussed and decided on.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Tuesday, January 12, 2020.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by:

Fran Onne-Fong, Secretary