

St. John-St. Matthew-Emanuel Lutheran Church

Virtual Council Meeting on Zoom – Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Present: Marc Youngblood, Andrew Kjoller, Allison Struthers, Fran Onne-Fong, Laura Gruenburg, Tammy Johnson, Deborah Maltby, Katherine Anderson, Jodi Cook.

A quorum was present

Excused Absence: Pr. David Parsons, Lynda Anderson, Anne Voorhies.

Absent: Jolynn Johnson.

Also Present: Deacon Eric Johnson.

Prayer: Opening prayer was led by Marc Youngblood.

The meeting was called to order at 7:38 PM

Secretary: Fran Onne-Fong

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

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and adopted to approve the minutes of the Council's meeting held on March 14, 2023 as presented.

Reports:

Pastor's Report: Pastor Parsons sent a written report and an agenda for the meeting to the Council. Pastor and his family are on college tours but will be back for worship on Sunday, April 16, 2023. Marc Youngblood, Council President, presented Pastor Parson's report saying attendance has continued to grow. We had 105 in-person worshipers on Palm Sunday and there were 135 people in attendance on Easter Sunday with a large Childrens' Time group. We have 2 young families, and one adult who will join the church soon and the Pastor anticipates that there will be 7 baptisms by the end of the summer.

Allison Struthers, Sunday School Co-Superintendent, said that the Children's Sunday School & Confirmation Class attendance for the holiday was big but it has been inconsistent. Jennifer Herbert, Sunday School Co-Superintendent, and Allison are in discussion about how to address the inconsistency for next school year.

Finance Report: Tammy Johnson, Treasurer, reported the Financial Report for February 2023 looked fine and was within our normal range of income and expenses. She will follow-up searching for a new bookkeeper to replace John Litke after this Tax season is over in a couple weeks.

Unfinished/Continuing Business: Marc Youngblood said that Lynda Anderson researched the cost of the Black Lives Matter/LGBTQ+ banner and it was \$5000. Question asked: Were there other bids? It was suggested that more discussion and research needs to be done.

There was an overwhelming response of volunteers for the two classes formed for the migrant conversational groups. They need ESL teachers, translators and Deborah Maltby referred those interested to the person coordinating the Buddy program. There are different programs that our church could provide opportunities for families to sponsor migrant families if any families are interested.

New Business: Memorials/Honorees that were requested were missed and left out of the Worship Bulletin this holiday season. The names need to be given to the Administrative Assistant, Emma Bellel, but was not. There were suggestions to look at the process, double check the requests and to give at least two weeks notice before the holiday for requests. It was also suggested that we should ask for volunteers to enlarge the offering counting team who count the weekly offerings on Sunday. We might also need a new computer or to take care of web issues and/or to update some of the computer system and streamline it.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting of the Council is scheduled for 7:30 PM on Tuesday, May 9, 2023.

Submitted by:

Fran Onne-Fong