

St. John-St. Matthew-Emanuel Lutheran Church

Electronic Congregation Council Meeting on Zoom – Tuesday, May 12, 2020

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

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 7:35 pm.

Secretary: Fran Onne-Fong

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

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and adopted to approve the minutes of the Council's meeting held on April 14, 2020 as amended.

Reports:

Pastor's Report: Pastor Parsons presented oral and written reports to the Council. He reported that the staff including Mary Fasano, Nelson and Farah Franqui and Gregory Mania continue to be a source of strength. He said that Rentaria's Construction successfully solved the raccoon problem and have begun work on the leak in the roof. They were recommended by Eric Johnson.

Pastor happily reported that he has not heard of any serious cases of Covid19 in the Congregation. He said that Bishop Egensteiner has recommended that worship in person should not resume until at least July 1, 2020. There will be many requirements and challenges that will need an innovative use of space. We will also need to consider a significant investment in the sound system, cameras, good quality microphones and a mixing board. We will continue to assess the worship space and how we can prepare to worship in person once again while at the same time providing a good experience for those who wish to worship online.

Finance: The Financial statements for March 2020 were delivered through email and discussed at the meeting by Tammy Johnson, Treasurer. It was noted that there was more than a \$7,600 deficit in giving in March. Through the

determination and diligence of treasurer Tammy, along with help from Pastor Parsons, Gary Heard, and Gene Hiigel, the application for the government's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) will be sent through the ELCA Credit Union.

There will be a finance committee meeting to plan the budget at the end of May. The Church Council will approve the budget at the next Council meeting on Tuesday, June 9, 2020. There will be an Electronic Congregation Budget Meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2020.

Stewardship: In addition to Pastor Parsons continued appeals to the Congregation for giving and stewardship, there will be more effort to direct outreach to specific congregants.

Youth: Youth Sunday is this coming Sunday, May 17, 2020 with prayers written by the Youth Group and Sunday School students including hymns chosen by them will be live streamed on Facebook Live. There will be bibles sent to Confirmation graduates Lila McAdams and Olivia Giddings and their parents will be invited to speak.

There was discussion of possibly extending Sunday School through the summer and keeping church services and Sunday School at the same time as during the year.

New Business: The Council discussed communion practice during the virtual Sunday services.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Tuesday, June 9, 2020.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by:

Fran Onne-Fong

Secretary