

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2024, CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING

Present: Pastor Christine Olson; President Terrie Porras; Vice-Presidents Jim Briar and Chris Nelson; Secretary Joanna Magrane; Treasurer Debbie Villas; Bill Taccolini; Cindy Smith; Jeff Hines; Jeremy Sallgren; Eileen Beyer; Holly Bayerl; Brianna Camps; Emily Lenca Absent: Gail Sieglaff Present to Report: Patti Treptow; Judy Raygo

Call to Order: Terrie called the meeting to order at 6:01 and welcomed the new Council members, Eileen, Holly, Brianna, and Emily.

Agenda Approval: Terrie called for review and approval of the Agenda. Bill suggested amending the order of the Agenda by moving “Action Items – New Business” to immediately follow “Action Items – Old Business” and precede “Reports”. After discussion Bill made a MOTION to amend the order of the Agenda as suggested, SECONDED by Jeremy, MOTION CARRIED.

Opening Devotion: Pastor Christine led the Council in reading and discussing Matthew 25:31-46, after which Council members introduced themselves.

Secretary’s Report/Correspondence: Terrie called for review and approval of the Minutes of the January 16, 2024, Council meeting. Debbie noted an error in the Treasurer’s/Finance Committee Report regarding the distribution of interest income, which should read that \$2000 was transferred to general checking and \$6,000 was transferred to the maintenance account, as is normal year-end procedure. Joanna read a thank you note from Debbie Lemery. Terrie formally accepted the Minutes as corrected and they were filed.

Treasurer’s/Finance Committee Report: Debbie gave an overview of Emmanuel’s financial accounts for new Council members, reviewed the monthly Financial Reports, and submitted the Minutes of the January 16, 2024, Finance Committee meeting. Debbie also noted that The Messenger is sponsored through August. Terrie formally accepted the Treasurer’s Report and it was filed.

ACTION ITEMS: OLD BUSINESS

N/A

ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS

Christmas Trees: It was brought to the Executive Committee’s attention that some parishioners have expressed concern about the safety of those climbing ladders to decorate our Christmas trees. Terrie shared the Executive Committee’s recommendation that we continue to use the large trees, being mindful that only those who feel comfortable should climb the ladders.

Fundraisers: Terrie reviewed Emmanuel’s Mission Statement and noted that, although expenses have been brought under control, additional funds would help us to further our mission. One of Terrie’s goals as President is to have four fundraisers per year, including the meatball supper, which was reinstated last year. Other suggested fundraisers include a pancake breakfast, brat

sales, a potato bar, and a pasta dinner. Tentative plans were made for a pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 27th.

New Congregation Council Roster/New Member Pictures: The new Council roster was distributed and reviewed with errors noted in Pastor Christine's address and Emily's phone information. Debbie will provide photos of the new members.

Committee Council Representatives & Update Committee Membership: Debbie distributed a list of 2024 committees as well as a sheet detailing the requirements for approval of new members to committee vacancies. After review and discussion, Holly, Eileen, and Brianna agreed to serve as council representatives on the Youth (Little Lutherans), Stewardship, and Worship Committees respectively. Bill made a MOTION to appoint Eileen to the Stewardship Committee, SECONDED by Jeremy, MOTION CARRIED. Debbie will provide an updated committee list next month.

REPORTS

Youth & Family Ministry Director's Report: Patti presented her report as written.

President's Report: Terrie stated that she is honored to serve as Council President and pledged to serve to the best of her ability. She shared the following goals for the coming year: to increase donations through fundraisers and grants; to develop a long-term vision for Emmanuel; and to continue to do God's work through Emmanuel's current programs and committees.

Youth (Little Lutherans): Patti reported that 7 children attended the pajama party on January 28th. She also noted that, weather permitting, the committee is planning a February sledding event as well as the Palm Sunday egg hunt.

Learning: (Bill) Did not meet.

Endowment: (Jeff) Did not meet.

Fellowship: Joanna reported that the committee conducted its annual review of the Fellowship Committee Description of Duties. The next Bunco event will be "Lucky Bunco" on March 14th at 6:00. Those attending are encouraged to wear green. A potluck and craft evening is tentatively planned on or around April 25th. The owner of CJ's Glass will instruct participants in making a stained-glass mosaic.

Human Resources: (Joanna) Did not meet.

Memorial: (Cindy) Did not meet.

Outreach: Joanna reported that Outreach sponsored the "Souper Bowl of Caring" on Super Bowl Sunday. The soup collected that day and at "Souper Bunco" was delivered to St. Vincent de Paul's food pantry. The committee will meet this month to plan upcoming Spring and Summer projects, including Easter Baskets for our nineteen shut-ins.

Policy & Procedure: Joanna reported that the committee met recently to orient new members (Joanna and Pastor Christine) and discuss other matters including the annual committee description review requirement and maintenance of Emmanuel's website. Pursuant to those discussions, the committee would like to remind all Council members to read and familiarize themselves with the committee descriptions which can be found on Emmanuel's website under "Our Work". The P&P Committee also requests Council's input on two matters: Does the Council think it's necessary to establish a schedule for updating Emmanuel's website? (The Council agreed that a schedule is not necessary at this time.) Should a booklet containing committee descriptions be distributed to current Council members and, in the future, to new members as part of their orientation? (In response, it was noted that this information is already included in the binder given to new members.)

Property: Jeremy reported that Matt Vanni is waiting on a quote for the chimney repair. The parking lot lights, which were very dim, have been fixed. Also, two windows were repaired.

Stewardship: Chris reported that handwritten thank you notes were sent out to those who made pledges.

Worship: (Chris) Did not meet.

Visitation Team: Pastor Christine reported that the team meets monthly. Three people have been trained to bring Communion to the homebound.

Vision Team (Faithful Innovations): Pastor Christine referred Council members to the February Messenger for an update on the Vision Team's activities.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Christine presented her report as written. She also distributed and reviewed the Northern Great Lakes Synod Interim Pastor Agreement which outlines her duties and responsibilities as Emmanuel's Interim Pastor. Pastor Christine also distributed an excerpt from Emmanuel's Constitution and requested that Council members read it before our next meeting and reflect on why we do what we do.

LONG TERM PROJECT/GOALS:

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

Terrie adjourned the meeting at 8:16. The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Joanna Magrane, Council Secretary