

Fairbanks Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2015

In attendance: Ruth Cook, Pastor Mark, Vanessa Jackson, Jim Lewandoski, Bob Boutang, Mark Huffington, Sara Harvison

1. Devotions – Pastor Mark
2. Call to Order – 7:10
3. Approval of Agenda - Jim Moved, Mark 2nd
4. Approval of December Minutes – tabled until February Meeting
5. Financial Report – refer to report.
 - a. Highlights
 - i. \$15,000 applied to principal
 - ii. New computer and external back up needed for office computer (\$2000?)
 - iii. Piano needs moving dolly (\$500-\$1000 from memorial funds)
 - iv. JZ has suggested that we honor Rachel Swenson with a \$500 scholarship for seminary
 - v. Reimburse Volunteers for mileage? Especially in regards for wet basement work
 - vi. Jim out of town 1/26 -2/7
 - vii. 18 people at budget meeting on Jan 18.
 - viii. Draft of 2015 budget included in financial report.
 - b. Mike moves, Ruth 2nds that council accept the budget draft.
 - i. Discussion to ensure that we allotted enough for new office computer to account for software.
 - ii. Motion carries
 - c. Mortgage- GOOD committee payment - \$15,000 applied to principal already in January
6. Pastors Report
 - a. Pastor Mark is here
 - b. He is learning everyone ☺
7. Committee Reports
 - a. Property Committee
 - i. Basement
 1. Countertops are in
 2. Cabinets to be delivered in the next couple weeks
 3. Flooring done; to be buffed and waxed.
 - a. Buffers showed up during the meeting to set up a time to start on Jan 20.
 4. Cabinets to be installed as soon as they are in.
 5. Need a cleaning day to put everything back and in its right place

- a. Within two (three) weeks of the official “it’s done” day, to have a church wide cleaning day, possibly with food, to put things back together and put items back in their places.
 - ii. Call Committee
 - 1. Committee of 6
 - 2. Meeting with Bishop Shelly went well on Jan 18th.
 - a. Gave the committee “homework” for the next few weeks
 - 3. The committee will start working on the questions and a mock interview in about a month.
 - 4. Then the process begins with actual candidates
 - 5. The committee has a goal of communicating what is going on in an open and transparent. It is noted that the process is clearly delineated on the ELCA webpage.
 - 6. Twice a month email blast from the call committee for updates to the whole congregation was suggested by Pastor Mark
 - 7. Names can come from congregation referrals (self-nominate), regional database, and the national database.
 - 8. The committee will be open in all matters except the deliberations surrounding the interviews. Right to privacy for applicants applies.
 - 9. Call committee = Sharon Cool, Dave Ingram, Ruth Cook, Trina Andersen, Eric Niewohner, and Sharon Lockwood
8. Old Business
- a. Constitution
 - i. Mike and Vanessa will meet electronically since our schedules are not lining up.
 - ii. We’ll add Pastor Mark onto that chain of emails.
 - iii. We will not push to add a reading draft to the annual meeting agenda
 - b. Child Safe Program (Safe congregations)
 - i. Still in progress/researching
 - ii. Doors should have windows
 - c. Thrivent Update
 - i. Ruth to send thank you notes for checks. She is happy to send others.
 - ii. Thrivent in its current form will disappear as we know it for the Pacific Northwest on June 30.
9. New Business
- a. Interim – Welcome Pastor Mark!
 - b. Personnel Committee – ongoing – we would love Pastor Mark’s assistance in getting this going in an active manner.
 - c. New Piano
 - i. Dolly system to be purchased as soon as possible in order to save on wear and tear on piano when moving

- ii. At that point, each service can situate the piano as best serves the individual service needs as a way to honor the gift that has been donated to the church as a tool to facilitate the mission and ministry of our church.
 - d. Items Loaned to Pastor Susan
 - i. Might need to set up a day for people to retrieve items on loan
 - ii. Items not picked up to be considered donated
 - iii. Might set up an area in the basement for needs of future interim pastors.
 - e. Mission Trip – housing and food
 - i. Need a place as a home base for a few days in June somewhere. They do not have specific dates yet (second week of June?)
 - ii. A church in Wisconsin
 - iii. They would stay in the church and we would provide a couple of meals.
 - iv. Email to be forwarded to Council members
 - f. Donation (\$149) to small congregation in Valdez in conjunction with Christ Lutheran to help pay for Sundays and Seasons
 - g. Nominating Committee – Kim Huffington, Sharon Lockwood
 - i. Need 5 new people to serve on council
 - 1. Replacing (empty spot), Mike, Ruth, Sara and Bob
- 10. Adjourn – 8:55
- 11. Closing Prayer - Ruth