

Fairbanks Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2017

In attendance: Tom Alton, Vanessa Jackson, Jerry Zellmer, David Ingram, Skylar Holman, Kathy Thomas, Denise Kind, Pastor John Van Haneghan, Mikey Jackson, Lucy Andresen. **Guest:** Emerson Eads

Not Present: Mark Huffington, Jim Lewandoski

1. Call to Order: 7:04 pm.
 2. Devotion: from Gospel from Matthew. Scripture lesson and readings about Humility.
 3. Guest Speaker: Emerson Eads speaks with the council about the music situation with Richard Comer and himself. The main concern is the way forward on keeping both musicians, and mending the fence with Richard on what has happened.
 4. Approval of Agenda: Vanessa moves to Approve, Denise Seconds. Motion Passes.
 5. Approval of February 2017 Council Meeting Minutes: Vanessa moves to Approve, Kathy seconds. Motion Passes.
 6. Financial Report: Jim is not present, but floor was opened for discussion. It was brought up to wait on the installment payment for the Synod Benevolence. Looking to move payment until after Easter. Vanessa remarks that as long as the payment is made, and if late, it will be fine.
 7. Pastor's Report (Pastor John): Sandy has been out the last couple of days for brother in law funeral in Texas, and Arlene Strandberg has been helping with the office duties. Building up the Temple program has been fun and progressing. Pastor will begin more coaching within the Synod with two other churches. Working on article about the Cluster Retreat for the Lutheran magazine. Sunrise Service is needing help. Discussed the Holy Week Services. Pam was asked about a Youth Breakfast, but needs assistance on doing it. A Youth Service is being planned for April 30th since it is a single service. Pastor brings up that a discussion needs to be made about one service in summer. A surgical procedure may be necessary due to fall in February, but physical therapy is progressing. Looking doing projection instead of the bulletins.
 8. Ministry Reports
 - a. Property Ministry: A Thrivent grant was used to replace light fixtures in the Basement of the parsonage. A frozen sewer issue happened a few weeks ago. Looks like a sewage pipe that needs repair at the cleanup. It will involve a sidewalk removal to see the issue. A light fixture in the sanctuary is hanging, and while scaffolding is here, repairs and lights will be replaced as needed.
 - b. Constitution Ministry: Vanessa discusses the status. A new model constitution was produced during the process, and it requires a new edition of the constitution to be done. It seems that while we were doing a new addition, the Synod produced a new model, and we have to edit. Mark is waiting for more information, and it requires hunting down the new version to make it complete.
 - c. Mutual Ministry Ministry: a new chair is needed for the ministry. Tom brings up that Ruth is planning to keep it up. A council rep is needed for the ministry. Lucy volunteers to be the liaison.
 - d. Stewardship Ministry: GOOD Stewardship Drive: Tom reports on the committee. He spoke about the purpose to the council. He also discusses about the pledge drive, and that it is the third consecutive one. Pledge cards are out, and are due April 2. Goal is to get \$250,000 for each of the three years.
 - e. Education Ministry: No report.
 - f. Worship & Arts Ministry: Informal meeting was conducted, and music for the Holy week. Music coverage has been laid on.
 9. Old Business.
 10. New Business.
 - a. Emerson Eads Discussion. The council discussed the way forward on the conversation with Emerson Eads about Richard Comer. The need to work together and make the situation right is very apparent, and needs to happen expeditiously. We appreciate all musicians and want to keep them. However, the fiscal problems, with contractual issues, requires the council and the individuals to come together to discuss. The process will begin by the end of the week, and it will be worked to complete resolution by next meeting.
 - b. Pastor brings up the need to work better on greeting visitors to the church. The need to include electronic means to communicate with them is needed. Another approach is for a lay person to make a phone call to visitors to make just welcome them and say thanks for attending the service.
 - c. Discussion was also conducted on projecting the service on the wall. It was agreed upon to give it some try during the summer to see what the feedback would be like, and research the products and equipment with costs to begin the planning. It would then be worked into the budget, voted on, and worked through appropriate means. Pastor also thought about a TV mounted in the Narthex to project announcements. Vanessa mentioned about donating a flat screen for the project.
 - d. President discussion: David discusses the need to bring in the younger generation. He has researched about millennials, and has thought and prayed about a way forward. He would like to contact other churches to try to get service projects with no financial requirements. He would like to also get back into working with The Door and Love INC in order to further the mission and try to bring younger generation into church through service projects.
 11. Adjourn: Vanessa makes a motion to adjourn, Jerry seconds, and motion passes. Council adjourns at 8:49 pm.
 12. Closing Prayer
- Next Meeting: April 18, 2017