

Church Council Minutes
Tuesday, April 9, 2019 - 6:30 pm

Meeting Location:	OSLC	

OUR MISSION: Inspired by God's grace, we open our hearts to all in faith, prayer, fellowship and service through Jesus Christ.

1. The meeting was called to order by President Rod Custer at 6:32 PM. Members present were Pastor Stephan Sandness, Laura Campbell, Rod Custer, Troy Hight, Michelle Keil, Deb Kimbell, Cindy Koppinger, Kari Webb, Dawn Wood, Gary Dettman, Mark Harding, Dillon Haug, Tom Baloun and Jim Van't Land.
2. Troy Hight shared a devotion based on John 14:25-31, noting Jesus words of God's peace to His disciples at the time of His passion. Jesus offered His peace when He himself was in the midst of a difficult time, and that peace is available to us also even during difficult times.
3. Each Council member shared "What's On Top" in their lives.
4. The Council dinner for tomorrow night was added to the agenda. The agenda was approved with a motion by Deb Kimbell and a second by Troy Hight. The motion carried.
5. March Council Meeting Minutes were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Cindy Koppinger and a second by Troy Hight. The motion carried.
6. Mark Harding shared the March Treasurer's report, noting that giving exceeded expenses by approximately \$3500 for the month but we are still behind in contributions by nearly \$13,200 year-to-date. The Treasurer's report was approved with a motion by Jim Van't Land and a second by Gary Dettman. The motion carried.
7. Staff Reports
 - a. Laura Campbell – 3 of our Friendship Ministry leaders did a training in Sturgis related to pastoral care in the congregation and in the community. The Lenten Prayer group has been connecting electronically and sharing their faith journeys.
 - b. Kari Webb – shared her work with the Belle Fourche St. James ELCA congregation, particularly how a recent medical situation has brought the congregation closer to each other.
8. Pastor Stephan – has been counseling the St. James congregation, noting that the 2 communities are very different communities, even though the physical distance is close. The

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“round robin” Wednesday rotation has been going well; working on preparation for Holy Week services. Confirmation class is nearing the end, so also preparing for the Confirmation service. Reminder that the Annual Congregational Meeting is this coming Sunday. Council Nominees to be presented at the Annual Meeting on Sunday are Rod Custer (2nd term), Deb Kimbell (2nd term), Dillon Haug (2nd term), Tom Baloun, Helen Merriman.

9. Committee Updates

- a. Education – Deb Kimbell reported that Celebration Sunday with potluck will be April 24; KidZone wrapped up in early April with some fun activities; no change in Camp registration numbers.
- b. Mission Team – Cindy Koppinger noted Clothe-A-Kid is ramping up, June/July will be the donation period.
- c. Communication – Michelle Keil shared that 500 inside “window clings” for cars have been ordered; the team met on April 4 to be trained in back end change procedures; continue to review and improve the content and preparing to go live “soon.”
- d. Senior Ministry – Laura shared that there is a game day coming up in early May.

10. Conversation about helping with the Council dinner tomorrow evening, assuming that the weather does not cause the meal and the service to be cancelled.

11. The Certificate of Deposit (CD) at Black Hill Federal Credit Union is maturing in June. The Finance Committee presented an idea to use part of the current CD funds (particularly the monies that came from the selling of the parsonage) to finance several capital improvement projects for the church building and grounds. The Council agreed with this concept and Rod Custer will share it with the congregation at the Annual Meeting. Pastor Stephan also shared that for \$3000 we could install an electronic, internet enabled door locking system for the north door – this would eliminate handing out keys and allow remote opening using a smartphone. Troy Hight made motion, seconded by Michelle Keil, to approve the \$3000 to get this installed. Motion approved.

12. The South Dakota Synod Assembly is set for May 31 – June 1 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls. Rod, Kari and Dillon expressed interest in attending, along with Pastor Stephan and Laura Campbell; our church is allowed 6 lay members in addition to Pastor Stephan and Laura and expenses will be partially covered. On-line registration will begin in the near future.

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13. The next Council meeting is the Council Retreat at The Living Room on Tuesday, May 14 at 6:00 PM and will include a meal.
14. The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Cindy Koppinger and a second by Troy Hight. Motion approved, and meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Van't Land

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