

May 2018 Church Council Minutes
Immanuel Lutheran Church
May 15, 2018

Members present: Beth Hansen, Tami Ehlers, Paul Nelson, Pat Hammer, Bob Peterson, Jackie Getchius, Anne Walbrun, Cari Larsen, Dana Connett, Jody Ebert, Cindy Paulson, Brent Apelt, Ruth Lunde, Ben Orton

Ruth Lunde gave devotions.

Bob Peterson related his faith story.

Secretary's report: Pat Hammer distributed April's minutes. Ruth moved to approve the minutes; Bob seconded the motion, which passed.

President's report: Welcome to Cindy Paulson, who will talk about camp. Our relationship with Rezek House is evolving, we will no longer provide the 5th Monday meals. We have received a draft of the lease with Onward Eden Prairie, which is being reviewed by Paul Savereide. One concern is the separation of Immanuel from the Onward Eden Prairie entity. Jody asked about electrical inspection, Beth will follow up.

Financial Secretary report: Bob reported lower giving in April due to the April 15 blizzard causing the cancellation of that day's worship. Lower attendance than previous years also blamed on the blizzard.

Treasurer's report: Tami reported that giving is under budget by about \$13,000. Opening Doors tracking sheet showed that our April giving was \$11,136, which is lower than the optimum \$15,000. Since many gifts come in lump sums, and not on a regular monthly basis, this is not a concern.

Staff reports:

Cindy Paulson spoke about summer camp ministry. When she came to Immanuel, our camping attendance had dropped, so Cindy investigated. Camp Onamia was eliminated for various reasons including rundown facilities, inconsistent staffing, etc. The committee investigated various camps within two hours of Immanuel. Wapogasset was the camp that rose above the others; children's ministry has unanimously decided they want to stay there. We are not a member church at Wapo, fortunately we are treated as if we do pay the membership fee. The children's ministry team would like to become a member church. This would involve a \$5,000 to \$6,000 gift and would give us a seat on the board. At this point our confirmation retreat remains at Onamia, with the date set for this coming year. Onamia counts on our \$6,000 at this point. We will discuss this further another meeting.

Pastor Paul recapped the Contemporary worship revamping. With Clark moving up to Minister of Music, a committee has been formed which has been visiting other area churches with contemporary worship. A couple things will change: the service will be focused on the lesson, more intentional about inviting people from the congregation to be more involved in the worship and music (confirmation kids, Holy Commotion), communion every Sunday will be consolidated with offering, lay people will offer the prayers of the church. Getting more members involved with the music and bringing more energy and creativity to this service are the main goals. Paul spoke about the high school mission trip to Pine Ridge. A commissioning service on June 10 is planned during the confession, written by a Lutheran minister who is also a Native American. The service would reflect the repudiation of the "doctrine of discovery" which holds that Christian peoples "discovered" this land and had the right to take it for their own, colonialism in a nutshell. Our emphasis would be "accompaniment" rather than the "missionary" point of view. Staff will focus this summer and next fall on contacting people we haven't seen in a while.

Scott (properties) reported via e-mail the turnout was lower for spring cleanup, but was satisfied with the work done.

The garage sale was a success, numbers to come.

June 6 and 13 will bring a discussion of affordable housing in Eden Prairie, with a meal before.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Pat Hammer, council secretary