

November Church Council Meeting
Immanuel Lutheran Church
November 8, 2016

Attendees: Beth Hansen, Brenda Tonjes, Mike Lindahl, Pat Hammer, Jennifer Johnson, Chastity Thompson, Scott Sabin, Brent Apelt, Jolene Held, Julie Tufford, Melanie Leite-Carroll, Cari Larsen, Ben Orton, Bob Peterson, Pastor Susan Weaver, Pastor Paul Nelson

Beth called the meeting to order.

Jennifer Johnson gave devotions.

Pastor Susan Weaver related her faith story.

Secretary's report: Bob Peterson moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Pastor Susan Weaver. Passed.

President's report: Bill Hawkins retires at the end of the year, leaving a vacancy on the church staff. Pastor Paul, Brenda and Beth will tackle this, attempting to keep it at a .6 position, and to fill it by word of mouth. A retirement celebration would be appropriate- perhaps January 8? Beth, Melanie and Jennifer will coordinate. Year-end financials are coming up-will discuss at the financial portion of the meeting.

Financial secretary: Mike Lindahl filled in for Scott Belseth- October giving is up 13.3% over 2015, 1.5% behind budget. Attendance is statistically even. Financial summary- we need \$310,000.00 to finish the year, we are essentially on budget. Spending is under budget. Mike passed out a projected 2017 budget, which is very preliminary until the pledges and year-end giving come in. Property and program will remain flat; health insurance will rise by approximately 5%. There are some funds in various programs that have not been spent yet, wondering if some of these funds are available for spending elsewhere? Costs are increasing in the IT area- \$500.00 for the announcement software, streaming has associated costs, etc. Mike will update council members on their budget status thus far in 2016, expecting that council members will inform him if they expect to spend their remaining funds.

Nominating: Council members who finish their terms include Brenda Tonjes (vice president), Lou and Alecia Hernandez (fellowship), Scott Belseth (financial secretary), Brian Heinzen (properties), Jolene Held (senior high youth), Scott Sabin (senior high youth), Bob Peterson (worship, music and arts). There are also 6 positions to fill on the nominating committee and one on the audit committee. Members were invited to submit names for their replacements to Beth.

Old business:

The water heater has been replaced and is working well, cost approximately \$2500.

Opening Doors project update: We budgeted \$538,000 and have a current projection of \$535,000.

Staff reports:

Martin Rathjen- 120 students signed up for the confirmation retreat. Communications team will review the building use forms. Rolling chairs were donated to the technology booth.

Susan Weaver-Grief Coalition started last night. Meals needed, just a simple supper which is part of our ministry. Animate Faith practices on Wednesday nights. A Luke bible study is planned in January.

Paul Nelson- Opening Doors is coming to completion; our street sign will be demolished tomorrow and will be replaced by a much better one. Carpeting and acoustic tiles, the shed, etc. are all nearing completion. Thanksgiving service will feature three speakers from our congregation sharing their thanksgiving stories.

Fellowship-Melanie Leite-Carroll- Service of remembrance is scheduled Thursday, November 17. Wednesday café is going strong. Fellowship is looking for more committee members and more help at funerals.

Youth-Jolene Held- Lock-in had 35 kids, adults and student leaders. Tent city-10 people spent the night. Mission trips-High school to Boston, Middle school to St. Paul. Toys for tots will need 20 helpers.

Adult Faith formation -Jennifer Johnson - Dan Kosel will take over the men's group. Pastor Angela is helping to plan a family camp weekend. Senior ministry is getting organized, different areas of responsibility being delineated.

Children's ministry -Chastity Thompson- Trunk or Treat was a success. December 18 is the children's service. 6th grade is invited to help with Toys for Tots.

Stewardship -Ben Orton- Stewardship month is rolling swimmingly. Ends with a breakfast on November 20.

Worship, music and arts -Bob Peterson is directing the members who question music selection to speak directly to Brandon. Spotlight for the sanctuary cross is planned as part of Opening Doors. There have been many requests to keep the written music in the bulletin, so that will remain. Bake sale is coming up which funds the Duluth trip; possibly take credit cards (follow up with Martin or Paul Erdman).

Social ministry –Cari Larsen -Anna’s craft sale was last Sunday and Wednesday night. PROP mentioned ILC in appreciation of its support.

Evangelism- Julie Tufford --ALPHA course is scheduled in January.

Saturday evening services during Advent will include Holden Evening Prayer in Fellowship Hall.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

Submitted by Pat Hammer, council secretary