

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Minutes
October 20, 2020

Present: Pastor Liz, Ginger McCabe, Ginny Grabow, Ben Olsen, Kevin Hewitt

Absent: Sharyn Gregor, Kay Wendelschafer, Deb Gehrke

Secretary's Report: September council meeting minutes reviewed and approved.

Financial Report: Approved by council.

- The general fund received gifts of \$10,830.35 in October, versus last year of \$10,813.76, giving us a difference of \$16.59.
- Year to Date: The general fund received gifts of \$98,042.13 versus last year of \$98,337.38, giving us a difference of (\$295.25).

Old Business:

- A new water heater was installed this month.
- The LTD internet was unhooked and we received a refund.
- Ballman Roofing looked at the roof and we're waiting for an estimate.
- Kevin wants to put new filters in the rooftop furnaces when Ballman is there working on the roof.
- Ginny and Deb looked into a couple of grants through Le Sueur County for COVID-19 related expenses but the church did not qualify.
- Scott is setting up a videotaping station in the back of the sanctuary and is looking for a table or desk to sit at and to hold computer equipment. Pastor Liz has a timesheet ready for the video technology helpers. Ginger will write something up for the newsletter, advertising that this is now a paid position, so maybe more people will want to help.
- Ben reported his findings on the cost of Mediacom internet. Ginger reported that the city approved new internet antennas to be put up on the water tower. That satellite internet will be up and running by the end of the year. Should we look into it? Discussion to be continued.

New Business:

- God Squad starts October 21st and 28th. Pre-Kindergarten through 2nd grade will meet in the fellowship hall with Vicky Sawyer and 6th graders will meet in the sanctuary with Pastor Liz. Next Wednesday the 3rd through 5th graders will meet in the fellowship hall and 7th & 8th graders will meet in the sanctuary with Pastor Liz. These groups will meet every other week. The 9th grade confirmation class will take place on the 3rd Sunday of the month.
- Pastor Liz attended a stewardship workshop and presented some ideas.
- The Community Thanksgiving service has been cancelled this year.
- Advent Services will be videotaped and posted online because there is no time to clean in between God Squad and a worship service. We will be interested to get feedback afterward.
- Christmas Eve services will be at 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm. We will need volunteers to clean in between.
- Pastor Liz reported that Julie Plafcan noticed some shingles on the north side of the parsonage roof that

are coming up. Kevin will talk to Dave Voss about it.

Next meeting will take place online via Zoom on November 10th, 7:00 pm.

Minutes prepared by: Ginger McCabe

Addendum to the October 20, 2020
Congregational Council Minutes

The Council met, via Zoom, on 10/29/20 to discuss the following new business:

- Pastor Liz informed the Council that she contacted several churches about how they are streaming their worship services online and what has worked best. St. Paul Lutheran Church in Le Center has hired and recommended Video Services, Inc. in Mankato, who are audio and video technology specialists, to help set up a successful system. Pastor Liz had them come to Our Savior's for an assessment on 10/28 and shared their proposal with the Council tonight. They recommend installing a hardware streaming encoder to connect to our existing video system. The cost will be \$2,449.93. Pastor Liz recommends approving this professional service because of the frustration level our congregation members are feeling with the unpredictable nature of our online church services. She has heard from several congregation members who would like to contribute financial resources to this cause. The Council asked if Video Services, Inc. provides a guarantee to ensure that if their services do not work as expected, they will come back to remedy the issue. The Council approved the installation of hardwire internet from Mediacom and hiring Video Services, Inc. to install an encoder for more successful online streaming capabilities. Pastor Liz will schedule these services to be installed as soon as possible and find out about a guarantee from Video Services, Inc.