

Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Congregational Council Minutes  
November 9th, 2021

**Present:** Pastor Liz, Ginger McCabe, Ginny Grabow, Deb Gehrke, Brian Block, Terri Heimerman, Tom Christensen

**Absent:** Ben Olsen

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

**Financial Report:** Approved by council.

- The general fund received gifts of \$8,037.95 in November, versus last year of \$7,843.96, giving us a difference of \$193.99.
- Year to Date: The general fund received gifts of \$102,687.92 versus last year of \$105,501.15, giving us a difference of (\$2,813.23).

**Old Business:**

- Pastor Liz shared stewardship materials with the Council and asked for volunteers to write a Giving Prayer.
- Approximately 120 kids and families attended the Trunk or Treat event in the church parking lot on Halloween. There were 6 trunks handing out candy, the school provided a bean bag toss game, and light dinner was served. The fire pit for roasting marshmallows and providing a break from the cold was a welcome addition. Rich Kern, the school's athletic director, wants to do it again next year.
- We have 4 people who can run the video at church. We would like 6. Ginger will ask Scott for a short training for the Council after worship on an upcoming Sunday.
- Deb signed the proposal from WW Blacktopping, Inc. to repair and sealcoat the church parking lot in the Spring.
- The Music and Worship committee will be meeting on November 14th and resuming adult choir will be discussed.
- Ginny talked about ideas for a church social group "Coffee and ..." (lunch, service projects, games, book exchange, etc).
- The Council decided to wait until January to send 2021 graduate care packages due to time constraints.
- Tom Christensen gave an update on building projects:
  - He will purchase and install a countertop water cooler from McGowan and new filters will be purchased as needed.
  - He informed the Council about the difference between a video sign versus an electronic sign for outside the church. A video sign is the latest technology and would be easier to operate than an electronic sign.
  - He told the Council that programmable digital thermostats should be bought to replace the current ones but controlling them by smartphones is too difficult to organize.
  - He feels that a programmable deadbolt lock for the door by the church office would be a good option for replacing keys that are floating around.

- He will be getting a group together to replace the ceiling tiles in the sanctuary.
- Deb feels that updating the sound system needs to happen first.
- Tom will come up with a priority list for church projects.

**New Business:**

- Pastor Liz and the Council welcomes Angie Knott as our new office administrator!
- The Council discussed how to distribute 2022 offering envelopes to congregation members who haven't been attending in-person worship. The decision was made to mail the envelopes to members who have not picked them up by the Annual Meeting at the end of January.
- Deb asked whether the office computer needs to be updated, how long-term records are being stored/organized, and how important documents are being regularly backed up. In the past, Scott Lassiter recommended Cloud storage. Brian said the computer crashed when Pastor Shelly was here and that's when a new one was purchased for the office so it's been at least 6 years. Brian also stated that there is an office equipment account with money available. It was suggested to talk to Matt Baker at Computer Plus Solutions. The Council also discussed updating the office furniture, especially since we have a new employee. These items will be added to our church projects list.
- Extended Advent starts this Sunday, November 14th.
- Pastor Liz will lead "Wiggle Worship" for families with children ages 0 - PreK on Saturday, November 20th in the morning.
- Pastor Liz will lead a Thanksgiving Eve in-person devotion time at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, November 24th. The Council will serve pie afterward.
- The Council feels 2 services for Christmas Eve will be necessary this year.
- Adopt-a-Family information will be added to the Sunday morning bulletin.
- The Council decided it is okay to serve coffee and treats starting after worship on November 21st.
- Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be held on Sunday, December 12th @ 10:00 am

Minutes prepared by: Ginger McCabe