

St Stephen's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: 14 January 2015 7:15 p.m.

Location: Lounge at St. Stephen's Church

Attendees (Absent): Dave Bergeson, Mike Bonk, Jessica Donahue, Brent Harms, Patrice Katzenmaier, Patty Longard, Dane McKenzie, Darcy McKenzie, Steve Morganson, Cassie Nault, Tanisha Pikula, Debbie Pirkel, Lori Ritt, Doug Schmitt, John Snider, Dan Youness, Laura Vitelli, Justin Woods, Sitakra Rakotoarivelo

Agenda

1. Devotions (Debbie Pirkel)
2. Adopt minutes from November Council meeting
3. Q & A on Committee Reports
4. New Business
 - a. Budget Proposal 2015
 - b. Council Meeting dates Feb-June 2015
5. Old Business:
 - a.
6. Adjournment – Lord's Prayer

Discussion of Agenda Items:

1. Devotions (Debbie)
 - a. Praying for Polly's family as the Lord has received another angel into his arms. Polly's father passed away this evening. Prayed that he was surrounded by love and family. Council has decided to send flowers. Jessica will contact Jan to order.
2. Motion to adopt November Council minutes seconded and approved by voice vote
 - a. Jessica moved to approve minutes, Justin seconded the motion and it was passed by voice vote
3. Q & A on Committee Report
 - a. Fellowship (Patrice)
 - i. Requesting increased communication between Youth and Education chairs for special events taking place in the fellowship hall
 - a. Plan for numbers attending and have adequate fellowship supplies on hand
 - b. Darcy/Tanisha/Sitakra will be called to a meeting with Fellowship to communicate on upcoming events.
 - b. Stewardship (Laura)
 - i. Just a quick update on pledge cards and follow up letters have been sent to those that didn't respond which has proved beneficial and a few more pledges are coming in.
 - ii. Working on looking into the online pledging versus giving and accounting those into the overall total.
 - c. Evangelism (Steve –absent)
 - i. Steve was absent, but Debbie did fill us in on a Signage update that it is ordered but has been postponed due to cold weather and underground work for the new electrical. Will be updated when the weather is suitable for installation.
4. New Business
 - a. Budget Proposal (Debbie)
 - i. Reviewed current budget proposed for 2015
 - ii. Discussed how to propose our deficit to congregation

- iii. Deficit is due to our general envelope giving is down by 2%.
 - iv. We also discussed to keep the special campaign in the budget or not, the amount will stay included in the budget but we will not plan on any special campaign at this time.
 - v. Laura suggested to present this deficit to the congregation as that we do have a deficit and we do have reserves to cover this for 2015, but we have to be aware of the risk of our operating costs going forward and that we need to make our members aware of how giving really effects our operating bottom line.
 - vi. Justin requested that we look into our number of members and the FTE of staff and see if our ratio is appropriate for the size of our church. – This will further be looked at in the coming months.
 - b. Motion to adopt 2015 Budget proposal seconded and approved by voice vote
 - c. Laura moved to approve 2015 budget as is, Darcy seconded the motion and it was passed by voice vote
5. Old Business:
- a.
6. Adjournment – Lord's Prayer
- a. Lord's Prayer
 - b. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM
7. Documents reviewed/referenced during meeting:
- a. Summary of Budget prepared by Debbie and Finance Committee

Next Meeting: Due to Lent, we will need to adjust the meetings for Feb and March. Stay tuned for adjustments in the meeting night & time.

Recorded and Submitted by
Jessica Donahue,
Council – Vice President

