

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
Parish Council Meeting November 14, 2018 / 7:15pm-8:15pm
Note - Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Attendees (Absent):

Pastor John Snider, Pastor Tim Thompson, Brett Scribner, Gary Westman, Dave Bergeson, Debbie Pirkel, Joy Stenhaus, Janell Woods, Beth Hostager, Diane Meyers, Sara Ruff, Joanna Mead, Mark Rogosheske, Jenny Van Pelt, Eric Donahue, Jessica Donahue, Kim Richter, Mary Brunkow, Lori Ritt, Teresa Tschida, John Anderson, Tracy Westman, Ally Schloesser-Brecht

AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer – Pastor John

2. Adopt minutes from October Council meeting - approved

3. Committee Reports:

Pastor's Reports

❖ Pastor John:

- Confirmation/Education & Service on Wednesday's with Salem has been filled with energy and connection!
- Meatball Dinner served 400. Silent Auction estimate is \$1,600.
- This Sunday will be the installation for Pastor Tim
- Please keep Jim Katzenmaier's daughter Ashely in prayer. She lost everything in the Paradise, CA fire.
- Tonight the Youth, Adults and our Tanzania visitors tied blankets at Salem Lutheran to give to Matrix in December.

❖ Pastor Tim:

- Tim's Toolbox has been a wonderful outreach. There are books available for anyone that would like one.
- Discussion on the next 2 years at St. Stephens. Please see details below.

Christian Education – Janell

- There will not be a formal children Christmas Program this year.
- Great turnout last Sunday when Ben directed kids in song. Hope to do more often.

Fellowship – Joanna

- Please see detailed report below.

Finance – Beth

- Please see detailed report below.

Inviting – No report.

Missions –

- Blankets are ready for Matrix in December.
- Blessing Tree will be up and ready Sunday.

Property & Maintenance – Eric

- Please see detailed report below.

Stewardship – Kim

- Please see detailed report below.

Worship & Music – No report.

Youth & Family – John

- Wednesday's have been well attended.
- Ally is working on a youth forum on Sunday's.

4. New Business:

- Installation of Pastor Tim Thompson – Sunday, Nov 18th 9:30 a.m.

5. Adjournment – Lord's Prayer

❖ ***Next Meeting: Wednesday December 19th***

Council Update from Pastor Tim for November 2018

Here's a sketch of the framework I'm using to direct my discipleship work at St. Stephen's. I'd be delighted to discuss this further with anyone who's interested, but this should be enough to give leadership a good general sense of my approach and what we're working towards.

Direction

Our goal is to become "**mature disciples**," or as it says in Ephesians 4:13 to come to "the measure of the full stature of Christ." We won't achieve that in this life of course - it's an "aspirational" goal - so our concern is not about how fast we can *arrive* there, but that we are *moving towards it*.

To help us move towards that kind of maturity, we need to be able to describe it. A detailed description would be nice, but isn't really necessary. We don't need a *completely* clear description of maturity, just one that is *sufficiently clear*. Clear enough so that we can tell if we're moving in the right direction.

For our purposes, I want to offer a sufficiently clear description of maturity that has these three parts:

Fruitfulness: A life that is marked by the "fruits of the Spirit" i.e. Love, Joy, Peace, Patience etc. (Galatians 5:22-23)

Reproduction: A life in which disciples are able to share what they have learned with others, who are able to share it with others in turn. (2 Timothy 2:2)

Community: A life that is shared in close community where "one-anothering" is taking place. (E.g. Galatians 6:2; Ephesians 5:21)

Four Strategies

There will be four strategies in play, with the first three shaped by the size of the groups they engage:

Large Groups – I will be working to influence the congregation as a whole, primarily through preaching, newsletter articles and such. The goal here is simply to introduce language and ideas, along with some practices, that can slowly move the culture as a whole towards discipleship.

Medium Groups – Here there will be things more familiar as classes and workshops – programmatic opportunities for those who will take advantage of them. These will have more impact on individuals because they are more participatory. The discipleship potential will be limited however because these tend to be things that people "attend" rather than groups or communities they "belong to."

Individual Mentoring/Huddles – As I engage in the above two strategies I will be looking for specific people to invest in directly who are showing eagerness for being discipled and a willingness to invest themselves as well. This will probably take the shape of one or more "huddles" or small groups that I will lead myself. As the people in these huddles grow, they will become disciple-ers in turn. For some, that may take the form of starting new huddles or leading different groups. For others it may be a more organic or informal way of nurturing growth in the people they interact with along the way.

The fourth strategy really has the long game in view in which people who have become enlivened through discipleship begin wanting to come together and form new groups and communities to pursue this way of living. Towards that end, I will be from time to time stimulating conversations on ways that people can band together as disciples in intentional community, and looking to see whose “eyes light up” at that vision. At some point down the road it’s my hope that we will have people ready to explore these directions as well – perhaps as a way of doing outreach to people who are not drawn to traditional congregational life. If that begins to emerge, then we can start thinking about how to resource, encourage and integrate these kinds of expressions with the rest of our congregational life.

That’s what I’m envisioning. Along the way I’ll be looking intentionally at the results of the work in each area to see if it is in fact moving us in the direction maturity in the three aspects I mentioned above.

As always, thank you for the opportunity to pursue this work with you at St. Stephen’s!

Pastor Tim

**Fellowship committee report
November 1, 2018**

Joanna Mead, Kathy Caniff, Jolene Sather, Patrice Katzenmaier, Sara Ruff and Pastor John Snider attended.

1. Woodbury Chorus and Orchestra concert, Sunday, November 4 at St. Stephen's.

A free will offering will be taken for the Neighbors' Food Shelf. The Fellowship Committee will provide and serve treats after the concert.

2. Breaking Bread with our Tanzanian Friends.

Three people are coming from Tanzania to visit St Stephen's in November. We have been asked to host a Thanksgiving-themed lunch in our guests' honor, in the fellowship hall on Sunday, November 18 after worship, offered alongside adult ed. We will set up after worship and begin the meal around 11:15. Beth Hostager and missions committee have arranged for three turkeys, and we discussed appropriate side dishes for our committee and others to provide. The side dishes that will be brought by members of the committee are listed below, with some additional suggestions. If anyone asks to bring something to the meal, we will add them to the list.

wild rice hot dish (Kathy Caniff)
mashed potatoes and gravy (Patrice Katzenmaier)
pumpkin pie — Joanna Mead (2) and Patrice (1)
scalloped corn (Andy Ruff)
calico beans (Jolene Sather)
sweet potatoes
green bean casserole
cranberries
jello salad
rolls and butter
lettuce salad

3. Thanksgiving Eve service, November 21 at 7 pm, St. Stephen's

We will bring and serve pumpkin treats after the service.

4. Black Nativity, December 9

We have 25 tickets to a 4 pm show on December 9. The November Update included a promotion for the event. Patrice will talk to Jan Perkins and will create a poster for the Connection Center sign-up. (note, this already has been done, great job!) We will arrange carpooling from St. Stephen's.

Properties and Maintenance: November 2018

Updates this past month:

- New stove installed (needs some tuning to new burners)
- New refrigerator installed
- New pump replaced for boiler system
- Water heater failed and was replaced
- Ballast in kitchen replaced (one of three replaced, other two are downstairs in the game room)
- Fixed toilets for MVMS
- Repairs to outdoor water faucet on North side of sanctuary
- To come yet: it was recommended from last year to replace the 2nd air handling unit for the Noreen center
- Boiler system in need of a licensed tech to log each week and keep track of. maintenance (working on individual)

Continuing to work down the punch list from the maintenance log, we are very aware that we had quite a few large ticket items that were not on the budget line, but we appreciate the many hands that pushed these must have now items through.

Update on Energy checkup, this was a property item that was brought to our attention by Norm, he had a company by the name of Enerchange come out and evaluate and find deficiencies within our system.

Eric has gone through all the requirements and changes and the return on investment was about 14 years. We have decided to not go this route. If you wish to see Assessment results, I will have the prepared statement with me at the meeting.

Stewardship Committee – 11/2/18 -

In lieu of meeting this month, with the Pledge Walk occurring this month, we agreed that the seminar Debbie, Bruce and Kim attended, together with Pastor Tim, was a great workshop. The event, Generosity Workshop, Engaging Generations thru Generosity, opened our eyes not only to generational differences in perspectives and action of generosity, but also the real opportunities that exist to engage everyone.

I think we participants from St Stephens, as well as those from other nearby churches, felt we did well in most areas, but there may be some others we had ideas we could explore. It was collaborative and encouraging for certain. We all felt energized from the seminar for certain and look forward to exploring more in 2019. We agreed to meet and discuss further to put together some thoughts for council and maybe some of the committees.

We are still excited about the book and the impact we hope it might be having on some members, but especially ourselves.

We also are going to explore the tangible factors around the pledge process and impact to financial commitments – how many are turned in, how many envelope boxes are taken/remain and how we can best explore on-going encouragement of generosity and gratitude.

I plan to be there but might be late from getting kids home from Wednesday services at Salem.

Thanks!

Kim Richter

The Finance Committee met on Thursday, November 1st.

In attendance were Abra Gillman, Beth Hostager, Sue Clark, Pastor John and Diane Meyers. Discussion surrounded the October financials.

October Financials

	Month		YTD	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Contributions	\$35,240.00	\$34,617.30	\$343,045.00	\$339,832.56
Other Income	<u>3,888.00</u>	<u>3,472.77</u>	<u>83,927.00</u>	<u>84,721.18</u>
Total Income	39,128.00	38,090.07	426,972.00	424,553.74
Total Expenses	\$43,735.51	\$46,178.83	\$458,943.10	\$442,175.12
Income Less Expense	(4,607.51)	(8,088.76)	(31,971.10)	(17,621.38)

Comments: Month

Total Income Under plan by \$1,037.93
Total Expense More than Plan by \$2,443.32
Income less Expenses Under plan by \$3,481.25

Salaries/Benefits better than plan by \$5,295.33
Education over plan by \$358.75
Property/ Main more than plan by \$8,212.56 mainly in Maintenance & Repairs. Hot water heater
Miscellaneous others make up the rest.

Comments: YTD

Contributions are \$3,212.44 under plan
Total income is \$794.18 more than plan
Expenses are \$16,767.98 better than plan
Deficit of \$17,621.38 is \$14,349.72 better than plan

Respectfully submitted,
Beth and Diane - Co Chairs