

Agenda	1
Attendees.....	2
Meeting Notes.....	3
Proposed Slate of Officers and Chairs	5
Committee Reports	6
Education.....	6
Evangelism and Membership.....	6
Fellowship	6
Finance	6
Missions	8
Pastor's Report – Cassie Nault.....	8
Pastor's Report – John Snider	9
Property and Maintenance.....	9
Stewardship	9
Worship and Music	9
Youth.....	10

Agenda

Reference: Email from Debbie Pirkl dated 5/13/2014 18:06

1. Devotions - Mike Bonk (5 minutes)
2. Adopt minutes from April Council meeting (5 minutes)
3. Q & A on Committee Reports (5 minutes)
4. Old Business
 - a. Approve Slate of Officers (10 minutes)
 - b. Review Agenda for Annual Meeting (10 minutes)
5. New Business:
 - a.
6. Adjournment – Lord's Prayer

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 18th at 6:00 p.m.

Attendees

					<=11													
					d=Devotions		19:15	19:15	19:15	18:00	18:00	18:00	18:00					
N			chair	% att	dev.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
						6/20/13	8/8/13	9/18/13	10/23/13	11/20/13	1/15/14	1/22/14	2/19/14	3/20/14	4/16/14	5/14/14	6/18/14	
1	Treasurer	Dave	Bergeson	x	100%	0	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
2	Finance	Mike	Bonk	x	45%	0	x	x	x				x	x				
3	Vice President	Jessica	Donahue	x	100%	1	x	d	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
4	Stewardship	Dean	Eisfelder	x	82%	0	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		
5	Financial Secr	Brent	Harms	x	55%	0	x		x	x		x	x		x			
6	Finance	Beth	Hostager		18%	0					x	x						
7	Fellowship	Patrice	Katzenmaier	x	73%	1	x	x	d	x				x	x			
8	Missions	Patty	Longard	x	18%	0	x							x				
9	Youth and Family	Dane	McKenzie	x	18%	0	x							x				
10	Youth and Family	Darcy	McKenzie	x	55%	0	x	x	x		x	x						
11	Evangelism	Steve	Morganson	x	82%	1	x	x	x	d	x		x	x	x			
12	Pastor	Cassie	Nault	x	91%	2	x	x	x	d	d	x	x	x	x	x		
13	Education	Tanisha	Pikula	x	82%	1	x	x	x	x	d	x		x		x	x	
14	President	Debbie	Pirkl	x	100%	1	x	x	x	x	x	x	d	x	x	x		
15	Worship & Music	Lori	Ritt	x	9%										x			
16	Secretary	Andy	Ruff	x	73%	1	d	x	x	x				x	x	x		
17	Pastor	John	Snider	x	100%	0	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
18	Property & Maint	Justin	Woods	x	82%	1	x	x	x		x	x	x		d	x		
19	Property & Maint	Dan	Youness	x	18%	0		x	x									
20	Worship & Music	Chris	Youngren	x	45%	0		x	x	x	x			x				
count		20	20	19		9	16	12	14	14	13	12	11	11	12	13	9	0

Meeting Notes

1. Meeting was called to order at 18:10 by President Debbie Pirkl.
2. Devotion: Pastor John led the devotion. Mike Bonk was scheduled but was called away for a family emergency. Our prayers go out to Mike and his family.
3. M/S/C to approve minutes of last meeting as written.
4. Committee reports. No additions or changes.
5. Old business
 - 5.1. Approval of slate of officers (copy attached below). Debbie reviewed the slate.
 - 5.1.1. Membership: Debbie just realized Steve Morganson's term is up. She is trying to get hold of him to confirm his willingness to re-enlist.
 - 5.1.2. M/S/C to accept the slate of officers as listed.
 - 5.2. Agenda for annual meeting this Sunday 5/18/2014. Debbie passed out copies and reviewed the agenda.
 - 5.2.1. Debbie will forward electronic copies to Jan and Andy.
 - 5.3. Land sale: We are scheduled to close 5/15/14 at 16:00. Debbie and Andy will sign for the congregation.
 - 5.3.1. Sale price was \$380,000. Projected net is about \$354,000.
 - 5.3.2. We previously discussed tithing 10% to missions.
 - 5.3.3. Foundation has asked council to consider allocation of some of the proceeds to the foundation. To be continued.
 - 5.3.4. Maintenance: once sale is complete we can stop mowing the property.
 - 5.3.5. Finance: sale of the property could lower our insurance.
6. New Business:
 - 6.1. Annual cleanup: scheduled for June 7th: The usual agenda is: Breakfast at 8:00 with target completion by 12:00
 - 6.2. The synod meeting is this weekend and includes election of a new bishop.
 - 6.3. Men's group will meet at a new place this Friday: the place formerly known as Serlin's and now run by members: Tiffany and Charles Cook.
 - 6.4. June exec meeting: Debbie proposes we do this on Monday 6/16.
 - 6.5. Pueblo de-Fe: John gave an update. Jacqueline graduated from seminary and was ordained last weekend. She has been called to serve Pueblo de Fe as pastor. Pueblo de Fe was a "synod approved worship community". They will now be a mission in the ELCA. Jacqueline will be working part time with Pueblo de Fe and part time as a consultant and mentor for other synod Latino communities to include: New Brighton and Burnsville groups. The synod is continuing to provide funding with hope that Pueblo de Fe will become more self supporting and their need for funding will decrease over the next 3 years.

- 6.5.1. Justin: would they consider merging with St. Stephens? Cassie: they tried something like that with a previous congregation partner and it did not work well. They prefer a separate identity.
- 6.5.2. John: we couldn't afford merger. That would mean we'd pick up Jacqueline's salary which is significantly more than Pueblo de Fe's revenue.
- 6.5.3. John: Pueblo de Fe currently pays us a nominal fee for use of our property and we in turn donate money to their congregation.
- 6.5.4. Taunisha: Would it be appropriate to invite their kids to participate in our Education and Sunday school programs? Cassie: there is a language angle. Many of the kids speak English but the parents don't.
- 6.5.5. Andy: Our facility is an under-utilized asset. If we support Pueblo de Fe out of our budget its cash out of pocket. If we support them with use of our facility we provide a valuable contribution that is inexpensive to us.

7. Adjournment

- 7.1. M/S/C to adjourn at 1844.
- 7.2. We closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Ruff, Secretary

Proposed Slate of Officers and Chairs

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church Proposed Slate of Officers, Committee Chairs, and Nominating Committee 2014-2015

Candidates for Election

Debbie Pirkl	President, 2 nd term, 1 year
Jessica Donahue	Vice President, 2 nd term, 1 year
Doug Schmitt	Secretary, 1 st term, 2 year
Brent Harms	Financial Secretary, 2 st term, 2 year
Dane & Darcy McKenzie	Youth and Family, 1 st term, 2 year
Patrice Katzenmaier	Fellowship, 1 st term, 2 year
Steve Morganson	Membership and Evangelism, 2 nd term, 2 year
Laura Vitelli	Stewardship, 1 st term, 2 year
Annette Youness	Nominating Committee, 1 st term, 2 year
Darcy McKenzie	Nominating Committee, 1 st term, 2 year
Member-at-Large	Nominating Committee, 1 st term, 2 year

Members Currently Mid-Term

Dave Bergeson	Treasurer
Tanisha Pikula	Christian Education
Lori Ritt	Worship and Music, replaces Chris Youngren
Mike Bonk	Finance
Patty Longard	Missions
Justin Woods & Dan Youness	Property and Maintenance
Sondra Paton	Nominating Committee
Vicki Jackson	Nominating Committee
Lisa Ellison	Nominating Committee

Members Retiring

Andy Ruff	Secretary
Dean Eisfelder	Stewardship
Chris Youngren	Worship and Music
Dave Paton	Nominating Committee
Justin Woods	Nominating Committee
Kelly Meyers	Nominating Committee

Committee Reports

Education

No update as of 5/14/2014 18:00.

Evangelism and Membership

Reference Email from Steve Morganson dated 5/6/2014 14:48

1. Seven welcome packs were delivered this month.
 2. Our plan is to do our first video taping for Town Square this month. Subject will be the Memorial Day Concert.
 3. We have received the Sercy seminar on Assimilation of church visitors. We will try to download it and listen to it as a group.
 4. With warmer weather we will install the wind screen on the Jiffey Lube sign this month.
- Regards
Steve

Fellowship

No update as of 5/14/2014 18:00

Finance

Reference Email from Mike Bonk dated 5/12/2014 13:54

The Finance Committee met on Thursday, May 8. In attendance were Sue Clark, Mike Butala, Beth Hostager, Dave Bergeson, Pastor John, Abra Gilman, Dean Eisfelder and Mike Bonk.

Following is a brief recap of the meeting:

Land Sale

Mike Butala said there were a few minor items that needed to be worked out but he expected the property to close in the next week or two.

April Financial Results

April revenue of \$58,100 was 45% or \$18,000 more than plan. Two significant items drove the increase. The Lego Bridge campaign added \$11,500 to income and a large donor contributed \$10,000 that was not pledged and not budgeted. Year-to-date income for the first four months of 2014 now totals \$181,000 and is \$18,100 more than plan.

April expenses of \$48,200 were \$5,200 or 12% more than plan. All of the expense variance related to property maintenance. Gas and electric charges were \$6,400 more than plan. The increase resulted from both utility rate and usage increases. For the remainder of the year our gas budget may be \$2,000 to \$3,000 less than needed based on 2013 expense. The electricity budget should be adequate for the remainder of the year. For the year-to-date, total expenses of \$183,800 are now \$2,200 or 1.2% more than plan.

For the first four months of 2014 we have operated at a \$2,900 deficit. Our budgeted called for a \$18,900 deficit after four months. The favorable variance to budget can be attributed to the Lego Campaign and some unplanned contributions. As planned, we have used \$63,000 of the Ken Nelson dedicated account in support of the Bridge service.

On-line Giving

While we are still doing some research, the Finance Committee feels that Vanco Services may provide the electronic support we are after for on-line giving. This service is also known as Simple Giving by Thrivent. We have 12 members of our congregation that now contribute by checking account deduction through Simple Giving. This system is used by a number of large churches in the Twin Cities.

The system would operate by linking our St Stephen's website to a donation site hosted by Vanco services. Congregation members can create a log in and begin making donations. Members will be able to set up a one time donation, recurring donations, or sign up and pay for special programs. Contributions from this system will tie into the Shepherd Staff software used by St Stephen's. The system has a mobile application that is triggered by scanning a QR code. We would place the QR code in our weekly pamphlet and it can be scanned by a smartphone camera. The QR will take you to the St Stephen's donation page within the Vanco website. We have asked all Finance Committee members to view the on-line software demo prior to our next meeting. Costs are relatively low if contributions are made by deduction from a bank account. If the congregation member uses a credit card then the fee is 2.75% plus \$.38 for each transaction. More to come.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Bonk

Missions

Reference: Email from Patty Longard dated 5/14/2014 10:49

1. Missions Sunday: Missions Sunday went well in May 4th. We had the Swahili choir join us for 10:45 service. The congregation decorated over 200 crosses during Fellowship Hour - these crosses will be sent with our Tanzania travelers to be given to children they meet on their voyage. Thank you to everyone for your help!
2. Pots and Pans: Our congregation donated \$665.75 to Loaves and Fishes in April. Thanks to everyone's on-going generosity, we continue support this valuable mission on a monthly basis.
3. Summer plans: we began to discuss some of the options for summer activities for our committee. most notable, we hope to play a part with the mission-themed VBS program this year. More to come

Respectfully Submitted
Patty Longard

Pastor's Report - Cassie Nault

Reference: Email from Pastor Cassie dated 5/8/2014 15:30

I'm out of the office this week, but I have a few updates for you before our meeting next week:

* I'm returning to full time (for the duration of John's sabbatical) on May 16th; my day off will be Monday.

* The Narrative Lectionary, which we've been enjoying this past school year, does not continue throughout the summer. We'll be returning to the Revised Common Lectionary starting Memorial Day weekend.

*Our seminary students: Keith, Katelyn, and Mandy are nearing the end of their year with us. Keith is off to internship next year, so he will no longer be with us; please keep him in your prayers during this exciting transition. Both Katelyn and Mandy have expressed that they'd like to stay with us for next year as well, but they will be scarce over the summer as they complete their Clinical Pastoral Education experience at local hospitals this summer. We will remain open to having up to 2 other students join us in the fall. This program takes a little extra work for John and I, but the gifts of the students' varieties of gifts has been a blessing for our congregation this past year and it has been a delight to have them among us.

**Synod Assembly is next weekend and we will be electing a new bishop this year; please keep this process in your prayers. *May the Holy Spirit move among us so that a strong leader might be raised up to lead our church into the future God desires for us.*

Peace,
Cassie

Pastor's Report – John Snider

No update as of 5/14/2014 18:00

Property and Maintenance

No update as of 5/14/2014 18:00

Stewardship

Reference: Email from Dean Eisfelder dated 5/14/2014 07:31

The LEGO bridge-building project has ended and unfortunately we did not reach our goal of raising \$37,000 to \$41,000. However, we did bring in a little over \$12,000 which is about a third of what we had hoped to raise. This was still a good effort and it brings us closer to closing the gap in our operating budget which is estimated to be \$37,000. It is likely that additional fund-raising efforts will be required at the end of the year to avoid using a significant amount of our cash reserves to balance the budget.

The Finance Committee is continuing to investigate the best way to implement an online giving program for St. Stephen's. Please refer to the Finance Committee report for additional details.

Dean Eisfelder

Worship and Music

Reference: Email from Lori Ritt dated 5/12/2014 22:26

St. Stephens Worship Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 1, 2014 7:00 pm

Present: Lori Ritt, Pastor Cassie

Not Present: Bryon Doctor, Mary Brunkow, Jean Rosheim, Brenda Geiser

Review Easter plans for this year. What should we keep? What needs improvement?
Ideas for next year.

May - There was a thought amongst the pastoral staff that it would be great to celebrate a sacrament at all services. So a decision for the 10:45 am service was that if there was a baptism then no communion. If there was not a baptism then there would be communion. So ultimately communion at every 10:45 service as a rule. No communion when the occasional baptism is scheduled. This was approved by the Council sometime in March.

Altar Guild needs to know communion plans
Communion every Sunday at each service except if baptism
Set up Saturday service. Will look for additional volunteers for Altar Guild.

Ushers - Needed

5:00 pm Saturday Praise service - looking for signup sheet
8:30 am Joanie Regan, Ann Anderson, Jean Rosheim, Chris Youngren
10:45 am service No volunteers signed up

Reader for May 11

Last September we changed from the "Sunday and Seasons" lectionary to the Narrative Lectionary. During Lent the scriptures switched from the Gospel being short and the reading long to the Gospel being very long. At that time we stopped using Lectors. Now starting this Sunday it has switched back again. The reading is long and the Gospel is short so until Jan hears different from the Pastoral staff we are going back to lectors. Just an FYI when you are seeking lectors if they were say they were scheduled and then not asked to read. Also...just so that you know it was recently decided to switch back to "Sunday and Seasons" beginning with the May 24/25 so the lectionary we follow will again change. As a result, lectors will be needed at all services.
May 11 at 10:45 is Youth Sunday - no lector needed

May 18 - Baptism and Graduate Sunday along with Annual Meeting between services

June 6 Pentecost Sunday - Barbary Coast - hang dove and red flags in yard, if possible.

Decorate for summer months - Communion banner and dove/peace banner

Need to:

Send reminder cards for ushers -

Revise lector list/Communion Servers sheet for June-September - Mail by May 15 - done

No robes for 10:45 service

Post list on bulletin board - done

Saturday/Sunday servant for pastors - person to review service to make sure every volunteer is present, fill where needed - frees up pastors to do pastoral work - working on

Youth

Reference: No update as of 5/14/2014 18:00.

End of File.