

St Stephens Council

08/17/22

Present: John Snider, Merrill Zieman, Jackie Hanson, Hannah Ruikka, Kim Richter, Tim Thompson, John Anderson, Vicky Johnson, Tim Gibson, Beth Hostager, Tracy Westman, Mary Jo Martinek

- Opening Prayer offered by Pastor John
- Minutes approved 6/16/2022
- Executive Committee update (Ministry Plan)
- Safety Committee update

Church Council Committee Reports/Updates: If possible please email prior to Church Council Meeting (Reply All)

- Pastor Reports –
 - Pastor Tim: *West St. Paul days* – diversity of people at our give away; observations in the report; collecting ideas and strategies for next year;
 - Pastor John: *proportional giving* – stewardship becomes a part of one's whole life. Challenging us to consider stewardship along those lines. Renters workshop – WSP, Homeline and Bellows Court working together. Soon 50%+ of WSP residents will be renters. There may be additional opportunities to reach out to the community; starting *new contemplative prayer and study group* – 1 night/mnth; *Ministry plan* – beautiful strategy, now getting tactical.
- Property Management –
- Christian Education – registration went out for faith formation this year, dinner back on Wednesday nights, Wednesday are for ALL ages, need adult volunteers to support the kids, pastors are going back into confirmation classes, 6 -8th graders will interview adults, Connecting and being of service are two most prominent benefits of the experience,
- Youth and Family
 - July was busy – 3 rising 8th graders went to Whapo; HS kids went camping; Youth group is moving to Wednesday nights this year; ValleyFair this month; meatball fundraiser in November
- Finance
 - Deficit through July, driven by property expenses, **will provide monthly update with high level overview**
- Stewardship
 - *Individual statements* went out today, discussion of communication about *stewardship messages*; **visit with consultant Pete to have a conversation about communication with the congregation**

- Missions Tues, Sept 13th, Feed My Starving Children; Tues. October 4th 12 – 6 blood drive
– Doing God's work is always in season 😊
- Worship and Music
 - Recruiting volunteers to help prepare for worship
- Fellowship
 - Saints game Aug 11th – 20 people attended; *patio party Thursday Sept 8th at 5:30; Openings for coffee and donuts on Sunday mornings*
- Inviting – no news
- Nominating – no news

Other Business or Announcements

Roof damage – have insurance out to look

Use your IRA to give to the church!

Next meeting September 21st 7:15 pm, hybrid

Closing Prayer