

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church  
Parish Council Meeting October 16, 2019  
7:15 PM – 8:15 PM

**Attendees (Absent):**

Pastor John Snider, Pastor Tim Thompson, Gary Westman, Merrill Zieman, Sue Clark, Debbie Pirkel, Joy Stenhaus, Mary Molumby, Teresa Tschida, Sara Ruff, Joanna Mead, Beth Hostager, Diane Meyers, Dave Paton, Eric Donahue, Jessica Donahue, Kim Richter, Lori Ritt, John Anderson, Annette Youness, Tracy Westman, Ali Schloesser-Brecht, Mark Rogosheske

**AGENDA**

- 1) Opening prayer / Devotional (Pastor John)
- 2) Minutes approved – September 18, 2019 meeting (Gary) - approved
- 3) Updates from Executive Committee (Gary): none
- 4) Committee Reports/Updates
  - a) Pastor Reports:
    - a. Pastor John:
      - i. Recommends to order and read “Manna & Mercy”.
      - ii. Adult Forum “Civic Engagement” we very well. Continuing discussion this Sunday October 20th.
      - iii. Love in a Ziploc bag is Wednesday October 30<sup>th</sup>. Everyone welcome
      - iv. Matrix has requested 4 consecutive weeks this year (Nov 30-Dec 28).
        1. Dave motion to approve Matrix request for dates noted. Jessica 2<sup>nd</sup>. motion approved.
    - Pastor Tim: See page 3 for report
  - b) Property & Maintenance:
    - a. Dave Paton reported progress of Security. 4<sup>th</sup> and final bid will be received soon. Bids received range from approximately \$13,000 to \$34,000. Task Force will review with added guest from the W. St. Paul Police department. Once reviewed the team will present recommendation to council.
    - b. Jessica:
      - i. Carpet in the Noreen Ctr will be pulled out Sunday at 5pm. Pastor John will announce during Sunday Service for volunteers to assist at 5pm.
      - ii. All sprinkle head replacements and inspections are complete.
      - iii. Water pump was replaced (\$5,000)
  - c) Christian Education: see page 4 for update
  - d) Youth & Family: John

- e) Finance: see page 5 for report
  - f) Stewardship: Kim
    - a. Theme this year is “Transformed Thru Generosity”.
    - b. Stewardship for all seasons.
    - c. New envelopes both in pew and take home option will be available.
  - g) Missions: Dave
    - a. GWOH: blankets were tied, coffee & baked goods were delivered to WSPPD and South Metro Fire as well as Mendota Heights PD.
    - b. Next meeting will be focused on cold weather clothing drive for local kids. Please watch for additional details.
    - c. Donated \$500 to NAMI during a fundraiser by Ashley Stenhaug Deeb at church.
    - d. Walk to End Hunger is Thanksgiving at Mall of America.
    - e. Thursday November 28: Thanksgiving Dinner has been moved from Cherokee Sirloin Room to St. Joseph’s Church. Please watch bulletin for Volunteer signup and Dinner reservation links.
  - h) Worship & Music:
    - a. Pastor John reported approximately 7 team members & have planned to LENT.
  - i) Inviting: no update
  - j) Fellowship:
    - a. Joanna: watch for signup sheet for the play “Church Basement Ladies”. Tickets are \$36 per ticket on November 23 at 7:30p at Ames Center.
  - k) Nominating: no report
- 5) Important Dates:  
a) Next Parish Council Meeting November 20th, 7:15 PM
- 6) Adjourn

## Pastor Tim Update

Here's a brief update for you for the Council meeting next week.

You may recall that I look at my discipleship work at St. Stephens as being in three "frames." In one I am engaging the congregation as a whole through things like sermons and newsletter articles. In another, I'm engaging individuals directly who are eager for discipleship. The third frame looks to engage groups of people. The Discipleship Lab has been my attempt to get something going in that middle-size frame.

Attendance at the first D-Lab was 14 people (plus team) and dropped to 10 the second time it was offered (with different labs than the first time.) The third D-Lab, which was just completed and again had new offerings, had only 4 attendees. It's clear that this approach is not well suited to St. Stephen's at this time, so I will be putting it on a shelf for the time being.

My emphasis now is going to move more towards working with individuals or small groups to see what might be done there, and how that work might be leveraged so that it benefits people beyond the few I can work with directly. In addition, John and I are continuing conversations to think about other middle frame opportunities that might be worth trying.

That's where things are at for now! Let me know if you have any questions.

Pastor Tim

## Christian Education Committee Notes

Date Met: October 2

Faith Formation Teachers/ Committee Members Present: Tracy, Mary, Patty, Jessica, Jenny and Alex

\*Here are the current numbers for Wednesday nights- 50 children are currently registered, we had about 40 last Wednesday night. We have 14 teachers, 6 helpers, 5-6 helping in the kitchen, 1 photographer, 1 tech person and 1 musician.

\*We discussed and went over the material that the parents/children will be doing on October 16th, which is our first family worship night.

\*Preschool/1st- Lord's Prayer

\*2nd/3rd- Creating Pray Books

\*4th/5th- Introduction to 10 Commandments

\* Confirmation- Basics of Reformation

\*Love in A Ziploc Bag which takes place on October 30th, has been advertised on Facebook, at both churches and the mosque. Fellowship will be providing the makings of s'mores after the filling of the bags.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Molumby

## FINANCE

	Month of September			YTD September		
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance
Contributions	30,282	30,369	(87)	299,759	303,461	(3,702)
Other Income	5,349	3,571	1,778	38,549	34,608	3,941
Total Income	35,631	33,940	1,691	338,308	338,069	239
Total Expense	41,318	41,439	(120)	385,745	386,031	(286)
Income less Expense	(5,687)	(7,499)	1,811	(47,438)	(47,962)	524