

**St. Stephen's Lutheran Church**  
**Parish Council Meeting June 17, 2020**  
**7:15 PM – 8:15 PM – through Zoom**

**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 – May 13,2020 meeting (Gary) – approved**

**3) Updates from Executive Committee**

- a) Cell Phone Tower Lease: Gary spoke with Richard and declined renegotiation.
  - i) Another bid will be sent. Until then, all remains as is at this time.
- b) Coronavirus Response/Reopening Plans
  - i) Reviewing option for groups to use the building. Montessori has reopened this week (approx. 10 kids in attendance)
  - ii) First parking lot service was last Sunday June 14, 2020. This was a success (17 cars)!
- c) Safety Committee – Merrill
  - i) 6/7 folks on committee. Beginning a draft for a template for in-person gatherings.
- d) Issues with cooling system (projected \$3,396) Gym and sanctuary. Jan sent estimate via email.
- e) Garrett is on leave until September 1, 2020

**4) Committee Reports/Updates – Please email updates in advance of meeting**

- a) Pastor Reports
  - i) Pastor John:
    - (1) Ransomware / \$1,500 to return files. Steve & insurance company state no data/access blocked. If anything /it was items on the desktop. Ransom will not be paid. Security is being reviewed by IT team.
    - (2) What do you think as a meaningful response to the question of racial equality?
      - (a) 1. Food shelf in midway area. 2. Do we want a group for a book discussion?
      - (b) Faithful response.
      - (c) Sara asks do we know if our current food shelf helps? Also likes book discussion via zoom. “A good time for the truth” (Beth recommended this book).

- b) Property & Maintenance – Jessica/Eric
  - i) Air Condition bid has been sent out.
  - ii) recycle bids are in review
  - iii) Eric reviewed building updates Montessori has going... all looks good
- c) Christian Education – Mary (see details page 4/5)
  - i) Tracy will be sending out another survey to families for next year idea.
- d) Youth & Family

**Hi everyone!**  
**Youth activities update.**  
**1) mission trip is cancelled. Not completely, I am looking at options to do here in the cities.**  
**2) Monthly activities have been cancelled for this month. I am trying to figure out a next step. The youth are tired of zoom, understandably.**  
**3) An email was sent out last month and another will be sent this next week about summer opportunities. I'm kind of going with the flow and looking for random fun things at this point.**

**Blessings**  
**Ali**

- e) Finance – Diane (see page 6)
- f) Stewardship: Debbie
  - i) Did not meet this past month. No new updates
  - ii) Sent mailing as reminder for offering. Also sent out some envelopes
- g) Missions:
  - i) Gearing up for September's GWOH. Ideas are welcome
- h) Worship & Music – no report
  - i) Great help getting music online and outside for new parking lot service.
  - ii) Expecting live streaming will continue for awhile.
- i) Inviting – no update
- j) Fellowship – Sara
  - i) Zoom coffee hour after 9:30 service. 10-15 join
  - ii) Who would normally be at coffee hour but unable to join via zoom. Folks sent baked goods/puzzle/flowers to those people.
- k) Nominating – looking for 2 people to join this committee

**5) Important Dates**

Next Council Meeting – August 19, 7:15 PM

**6) Adjourn**

## Education Meeting on 6/16/2020

Present via ZOOM: Tracy Westman, Mary Molumby, Jenny Beitzel, Jess Gregory, Christine Davis,

PARTICIPATION PER LEVEL FOR 2019-2020 up till 3/11/2020 and then via ZOOM:

**2-Another church 12- Salem Lutheran 40- St. Stephen's Lutheran Wee Wonder- All St. Stephen's**

CLASS DIVISIONS	REGISTERED	ROUGH AVERAGE PER WEEK	AFTER STAY-AT-HOME done on ZOOM	Projection for next year (based on kids registered this year)
Wee Wonder (on Sundays)	6	4	3-4 families per Sunday	4 families
Preschool-1st	10	4	3	9
2nd/3rd	7	4	2	6
4th/5th	12	7	4	6
6th	6	4	Combined with 7th	7
7th	6	3	6th/7th 4	5
8th boys	6	5	4-5	Combined boys and girls
8th girls	6	6	5-6	5
	<b>59 total</b>	<b>37 total (62%)</b>	<b>About 25 (@42%)</b>	

### Signed up but never attended:

(19%)

A family of 6 (1-preschool, 1-1st, 1-3rd, 1-5th, 1-6th, 1-7th)

A family of 2 (1 preschool, 1 4th)

Family of 1 (1-5th grade)

Wee Wonder- 2 families. Also picked up a new kid just before stay-at-home order

### 2019/2020 THINGS THAT WERE CONTINUED:

- 1) Ziploc Bags of Love - Creating bags for the homeless
- 2) Schedule: Dinner (30 minutes) Worship (20 minutes) Class time (@30 minutes)- time was slightly different from 2018-2019
- 3) Using SHINE curriculum for preschool-5th grade- this year we tried multi-age for 2nd-5th grade.
- 4) Sermon notes being required
- 5) Blessing of backpacks, blessing of teachers, Confirmation Sunday on Reformation Sunday ???????
- 6) Christmas and Lent learning opportunities for each grade level.
- 7) MISSED DUE TO STAY AT HOME: Bibles for 3rd grade, First Communion for 2nd grade
- 8) End of Year celebration

### 2019/2020 NEW THINGS TRIED:

- 1) Family Worship/Faith Formation Night- 1 night a month where kids and parents worked on and learned faith together
- 2) Tanzania dancers and Worship - an opportunity that presented itself so we did it!
- 3) Confirmation topics (Using SHINE curriculum: GENERATION WHY)
  - a) 6th grade (Beginning)- How to Read the Bible
  - b) 7th Grade (Exploring)- Fight Right and they also spent time on some basic bible principles.
  - c) 8th Grade (Launching)- Do The Right Thing and Mantras, Menorahs and Minarets
- 4) 8th graders (plus parents and guides...average 23 per trip) going on field trips to a Islamic mosque, Buddhist Temple, Jewish Synagogue. Not attended due to stay-at-home order: Hindu Temple
- 5) Key Keepers - verses from the bible
- 6) STAY- At-HOME After March 23rd - Online Faith Formation with email from Tracy to family (really started April 8th)
- 7) After March 23rd- ZOOM meetings on Wednesday nights with Faith leaders using email sent from Tracy (April 8th). All classes (even Wee Wonder) met using this method.
- 8) ZOOM End Of Year Celebration - about 25 families in attendance! Used breakout rooms (thanks Pastor Tim) for each class.
- 9) PLANNED BUT DID NOT HAPPEN: Stations of the Cross right before Maundy Thursday
- 10) Allowed confirmation teachers to set their subject timeline of study- did get changed at times due to Tanzania guests.

### Survey Information as talked about at the Faith Formation Meeting on 6/16/2020:

#### FAMILY SURVEY:

- 1) 14 responses
- 2) They liked the family nights, the music, and they liked having two teachers in the room.
- 3) All families thought they had a chance to participate in worship after the stay at home order.
- 4) Families would like to talk with other families regarding raising their children in faith.

#### TEACHERS SURVEY:

- 1) 10 responses
- 2) Some teachers didn't like the multi-age curriculum.
- 3) Confirmation curriculum was good, in depth study books were liked.
- 4) Shine was a nice capstone for confirmation.
- 5) Teachers liked the talking points that were given to them to use during their zoom meetings.

### GOING FORWARD INTO 2020-2021:

\*We are looking forward to continuing one night a month for family worship.

\*We had parents asking how they could come together with other parents and talk about how to raise children in faith and how they answer their child's questions about tough issues.

\* We want to keep our older students engaged and involved at church, how does this look moving forward?

\* Continue to work on getting our parents involved.

Next Meeting August 4th at 6:30 and hopefully in person.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Molumby

## FINANCE

	MAY			MAY YTD		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	Change	BUDGET	ACTUAL	Change
General Envelope	27,300	27,849	549	175,500	165,577	(9,923)
Total Contributions	28,119	29,569	1,450	184,293	170,112	(14,182)
Total Other Income	3,605	3,169	(436)	20,011	16,724	(3,286)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>31,724</b>	<b>32,738</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>204,304</b>	<b>186,836</b>	<b>(17,468)</b>
Total Expenses	43,410	37,928	5,482	228,049	208,214	19,835
<b>Income Less Expense</b>	<b>(11,686)</b>	<b>(5,190)</b>	<b>6,496</b>	<b>(23,745)</b>	<b>(21,377)</b>	<b>2,367</b>
NOTES:						
Expense Summary better than Budget						
Gas Charges	1,425	1,210	215			
Electricity	1,250	827	423			
HVAC	917	-	917			
Maintenance & repairs	1,042	-	1,042			
Lawn care	975	700	275			
Custodial Care	1,375	813	563			
Music \ Worship	709	137	572			
Office Expense	1,844	1,786	58			
			4,064			