

Minutes of Meeting
Church Council Meeting 02-16-21 (Via Zoom)

The following were present at this meeting:

Pastor Lloyd.	Pastor Joel	Mark Sanstead	Heidi Lund
Shelly Rohr	Cathy Shores	Ellen McCullough	Tricia Agen
Rod Risch	Joyce Nelson	Jean Lodermeier	Lori Mikel

Call to Order by: President Cathy Shores

Devotions by: Pastor Joel

Consent Motion:

January 12th, 2021 Church Council Minutes, Annual Church Congregational Meeting, January 31st, 2021, February 9th, 2021 President's Committee Meeting

Motion to approve by Shelly. Second by Lori. Motion carries.

Treasurer's Report: By Treasurer Jean Lodermeier:

- A. Giving: January 2021 was \$120,250.93, up 9.9% from January 2020 \$109,451.62
The 2021 YTD giving was \$120,250.93, up 9.9% from 2020 PYTD at \$120,250.93
- B. Attendance: January 2021 attendance was 1,616 down 29.8% from January 2020 at 2,302
2021 YTD 1,616 down -29.8% from 2020 PYTD 2,302
- C. Income and Expenses: Income for January 2021 was \$120,251, expenses \$53,924
- D. Total Operating Funds: \$259,318
- E. Total Memorial Funds: \$52,450
- F. Total Growing In Grace: \$11,424
- G. Total Designated Savings: \$387,323
- F. Total of all Dedicated Accounts: \$451,197

Motion to approve January, 2021 Treasure's report by Tricia. Second by Ellen. Motion carries.

Business:

1) Parish Nurse-Pastor Lloyd/Joyce: Pastor Lloyd and Joyce spoke about retaining a parish nurse for OSEL. The position would start out as a limited position, about 10 hours/week, and would cost approximately \$15,000.00 per year. A starting date may be as soon as March, 2021. Pastor Lloyd reported he has one person in mind for the position. She is a nurse and also a member of OSEL. Joyce reported there are other congregations in the area that have a parish nurse. One church has the nurse as an employee and three other churches are contracting with an agency for nursing services. Joyce reported contracting would take away the liability from OSEL. Joyce said she did talk to the church insurance carrier. She said OSEL is covered for liability with our current insurance coverage. Pastor Lloyd said the duties would include, but not limited to, well-being checks for members, prayer visitation, medical/spiritual mix, health education, and mental health issues recognition. Pastor Lloyd said the funding for the first year could come from the New Ministry designated account.

Motion by Ellen to hire a parish nurse, 10 hours per week hourly position for a one-year trial period to be funded by the New Ministry budget. Second by Tricia. Motion carries.

2) IDI Survey-Pastor Lloyd: Pastor Lloyd spoke about a diversity awareness inventory available to OSEL members. He said it is intended for people wanting to grow in their diversity. He said the inventory is to assist individuals and not to be used as a shaming device. Pastor Lloyd said the inventory is totally private and is not shared. He said a group of approximately 20 persons would participate and only group scores would be reviewed. Pastor Lloyd said the inventory would be helpful in interacting with more diverse churches. Pastor Lloyd said the sign up would be by email and the Synod would then send out a link to participants. He said the inventory would be taken and then group scored. He said a group meeting would take place to review the group scores via Zoom. Pastor Lloyd said the cost would be about \$20.00 per person and the expense could be covered by the church. Pastor Lloyd asked for permission from the Council to offer the inventory to the congregation.

Motion to put out the IDI Survey information to the congregation and to fund the first 20 participants with funds in the Misc. designated account by Heidi. Second by Lori. Motion carries.

3) 150th Anniversary-Ellen: Ellen advised there is a plan to have the Bishop speak via a pre-recorded message at the March 14th, 2021 service. Ellen said the committee would like to move forward with a documentary for the 150th Anniversary. The documentary would include personal stories and be put on the OSEL website. Ellen said the committee is asking for \$2000.00 to get Seth Duin to help create the project.

Motion by Ellen to have the Bishop speak for the 150th Anniversary. Second by Jean. Motion carries.

Motion by Lori to hire Seth Duin, not to exceed \$2000.00, to help create a documentary for the 150th Anniversary. Second by Shelly. Motion carries.

Informational Updates:

1) Easter Services-Pastor Lloyd: Pastor Lloyd reported there will be different ways to participate on Ash Wednesday. He said there would be in person options as well as at home. Pastor Lloyd said there would be one service during Holy Week. He said on Easter Sunday, April 4th, 2021 there will be options for in person, parking lot, and online for worship opportunities. Pastor Lloyd said there would also be a possibility for an outdoor service later in the day, dependent on the weather. Pastor Lloyd said no exact times have been determined. He said there is a 100-person cap on indoor services. He said extra services could be added as needed. Pastor Lloyd said there is a 250-person cap on the outdoor services.

2) Impact Stories/Statements-Pastor Lloyd: Pastor Lloyd spoke about a project to obtain stories from people on how OSEL has impacted their lives. He said we need a way to "funnel" those stories for the purpose of sharing. Pastor Lloyd talked about using a website for people to send their stories of how OSEL impacted them. He said they could use a designated email address to submit their stories. He said testimonials and/or pictures could be sent.

3) Missing Middle-Pastor Lloyd: Pastor Lloyd spoke about the concept of the "Missing Middle" with the new members of council and they thought this should be discussed with the full council. He said we all have our "inner circle," which consists of our spouse, significant other, family, and about five close friends. He said what people are lacking are people in the "Missing Middle". Pastor Lloyd said the middle circle consists of people you can process meaning with and sharing values and life's experiences, which include small groups, fishing buddies and coffee club friends. Pastor Lloyd said the outer circle consists of acquaintances, sports parents, co-workers, and people in worship. Pastor Lloyd said people are looking for the middle group, the "Missing Middle", to find community. Pastor Lloyd asked how we can help people find community.

Pastor Lloyd said congregational size matters. He said given the size of OSEL there are difficulties in leadership development. He said the development of lay leaders is important. He said growth and alignment are also important. Pastor Lloyd said there are pastoral challenges, one of which is how pastors show they care, versus pastors in a small church. Pastor Lloyd said more help is needed for pastors to be able to relate to people. He said this is difficult, with church growth, as an intimate relationship is difficult. He said there are inherent difficulties, given the size of OSEL.

4) Website Update-Joyce: Joyce reported that the staff met last week and reviewed the website screens. She said the “final tweeks” are in progress. Joyce said the website should be done by the end of February.

5) HVAC Updates-Tom/Joyce: Joyce reported there is a deadline for HVAC bids of 2/26/21. She said there are six companies that came to the church building. Joyce said Tom is waiting for the final bids. She said all six vendors may not bid.

6) Synod Tool Kit-Joyce: Joyce reported the Synod Tool Kit will be on February 27th, 2022 for about two hours in the morning. She said it will be online on Zoom. She said the keynote speaker will be Dr. Michael Osterholm from the University of Minnesota. Joyce said she will be sending out an email where people can sign up and select their break out workshops.

7) Pastor Lloyd and Pastor Joel submitted written reports. Pastor Lloyd reported he attended the Conference Assembly and was elected the South Conference Dean for the next three years.

Prayers and Celebrations

Motion to Adjourn @ 8:43 PM by Ellen, second by Mark, motion carries.

Submitted electronically on 02/28/21 by Rod Risch, Secretary