

St. John Lutheran Church, ELCA
Council Meeting Minutes
(August 9, 2022)

President: Ann Ruedy
Vice President: Michael Behsmann
Council Secretary: Koni Hudak
Financial Secretary: Al Tonn

Building & Grounds: Kyle Gallagher
Congregational Life: Rhonda Behsmann
Education: Alex Cooper

Social Ministry & Outreach: Diane Blowers
Worship & Music: Sue Michaels
Member at Large: Terry Huber

1. Call to Order Ann R. called the meeting to order at 6:30pm on Tues., Aug. 9, 2022.
2. Welcome visitors No visitors were present.
3. Opening Devotion
 - Pastor John shared a handout based on Ephesians, outlining four “whys” in having and being part of a church. The back of the handout listed ten reasons people leave the church, based on the linked resource provided.
4. Roll call (Quorum = 4 voting Members) Rhonda Behsmann was absent.
5. Announcements
 - Council duty schedule for Aug 2022 – Jan 2023
 - i. Be sure you are contacting Julie in the office with dates changes, to keep bulletin accurate.
 - Thank-you's
 - i. SJLC received various notes of thanks for their contributions: Good Earth Village towards campers’ costs; Operation Bootstrap for mission monies donations (since 2016); ELCA’s Good Gifts for livestock with funds raised by Sunday School, matched by Men in Mission.
 - Reminder – council terms ending, nominating process
 - i. The nominating committee (Pres., VP, Sec., all exiting council members) will meet in November to begin the call for new council members.
 - 1. **ACTION ITEM:** Exiting council members to consider nominees prior to Nov.
6. Regular Business
 - Secretary’s report
 - i. Motion made to accept and approve the secretary’s minutes, as presented.
 - 1. 1st—Alex C.; 2nd—Kyle G. Motion passed. No objections. (7-0)
 - Financial report - Al Tonn
 - i. JUNE report
 - 1. General Fund Income
 - a. Line 19: more expenses than income by less than \$2,000.00
 - 2. Expenses—looks normal
 - 3. Designated Gifts
 - a. Line 32: \$2,800.00 for parking lot; to be made into own line item
 - ii. JULY report
 - 1. General Fund Income
 - a. Line 19: very few expenses; in the black more than \$1,500.00
 - 2. Expenses
 - a. Line 57: \$150.00+mileage to guest pastor, Pr. Barbara Streed was declined for unknown reasons; discussion to put monies towards a charity of Pst. Streed’s choice.
 - i. **ACTION ITEM:** Al will contact Pr. Streed with proposal.
 - b. Lines 61-63: interest rate floated down, but may rebound in future
 - 3. SJLC Budget
 - a. Line 54 & 57: concerns remain, unsure how to combat
 - 4. Designated Gifts
 - a. Line 36: for Pr. John and Julie K., Portico & Edward Jones, respectively
 - 5. Motion to accept and approve Financial Report, as presented.
 - a. 1st—Terry; 2nd—Alex. Motion passed. No objections. (7-0)
 - Commission of Buildings and Grounds – Kyle Gallagher

- i. Elevator—received letter from state of MN stating SJLC is in compliance with current codes, no updates needed. Pastor John relayed inspector’s words saying codes changes will need to be followed in approx. 3-5 yrs. SJLC needs to prepare & budget.
 - ii. Garage Door—door delivered as of 08-09-22; Kyle expects to pick up and install within 1-2 weeks with help from Bill E., if need.
 - 1. **ACTION ITEM:** Pastor John will leave key with Julie before leaving for vacation.
- Commission on Congregational Life – Diane Blowers
 - i. Pine Ridge—Aug 18-22; a few things to finish up prior to leaving, but mainly ready to deliver donations. Commission proposed having donation basket out year-round, with list of items needed, in order to allow people to purchase items gradually (taking advantage of discounts on certain items throughout the year); donated items would be collected regularly, to store safely away until the next trip.
 - 1. **ACTION ITEM:** Diane will discuss details with Sue E. to get basket/list prepared.
 - ii. God’s Work, Our Hands: Walk for Water on 09/11/22, see Pst Report for details.
 - iii. Lutheran World Relief: School kits to be assembled 9/25
 - iv. Sunday School: first day, 9/25; proposed to have students help assemble kits
 - v. Scholarships—Congregational Life commission members proposed setting up a scholarship fund for graduating confirmed SJLC high school students; opportunities to earn scholarship monies by volunteering time/talents to SJLC (i.e., teach/assist with Sunday School); commission sees a need to give to students who may not have high academic standings that earn them traditional scholarship monies, but still have needs/wants towards schooling. This is different from the Barb Penny scholarship (unknown as to the last year awarded), which requires monies to be used towards religious experiences/services (i.e., working at a church camp, making menial income); if inducted, both scholarships’ availability needs to be announced, annually, in order to remind students and families of the volunteer (earning) and financial assistance opportunity.
 - 1. **ACTION ITEM:** Ann R. will discuss and/or put together an outline of scholarship details (volunteer options, scholarship dollar amount, number awarded each year, expectations, etc., etc.), with Jodi Schroeder.
- Commission of Worship and Music – Sue Michaels No announcements.
- Commission on Social Ministry and Outreach – Rhonda Behsmann (Mike B. spoke on behalf of Rhonda B., in her absence.)
 - i. Undie Sunday—items delivered to church, ready to go.
 - ii. Dakota Indian Land Recognition—plaque completed
 - 1. **ACTION ITEM:** Bill E. will install in location TBD by both Bill and Pst. John
- Education Committee – Terry Huber
 - i. Farm Fest—Spring 2023
 - ii. Sunday School—Val prepping for Sept.-May, looking for parent(s) to assist; families prefer last Sunday of every month, per survey; 2022-2023 sessions end time of 10:15AM to allow more time for lessons with students and provide the opportunity for parents to visit during Fellowship Hour.
 - iii. VBS—cancelled, low enrollment
 - iv. Replacement (swap) of Council Member(s)—Terry H. asked to step down from his role as Education council person and proposed he finish his current term as Member at Large council person, moving Alex C. (current Member at Large council person) into the Education council person position.
 - 1. Motion made for Terry H. to replace Alex C., and Alex C. to replace Terry H. in each of their respective roles, so that Alex C. will be the new Education council person and Terry H. will be the new Member at Large council person. Terry’s term will end in Jan. of 2023, as Member at Large, and Alex’s term will end in Jan. of 2024 as Education.
 - a. 1st—Kyle; 2nd—Sue. Motion passed. No objections. (7-0)

7. Other Business

- Parking lot estimates and discussion – Kyle
 - i. Sekora Asphalt getting bid to SJLC “soon”; can’t wait too long (winter); Mike B. and Bill E. recommend complete lot overhaul in order to construct downspout run-off to tie into sewer system vs running onto new lot, causing potential damage over the long-term.
 - 1. **ACTION ITEM:** Mike B. will discuss with Bill E.
 - ii. James Bros Const.—Ann left VM re: getting a bid; awaiting reply.

