

St. John Lutheran Church, ELCA  
**Council Meeting Minutes**  
(August 10, 2021)

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

*Building & Grounds: Kyle Gallagher*  
*Congregational Life: VACANT*  
*Education: Terry Huber*

*Social Ministry & Outreach: VACANT*  
*Worship & Music: Sue Michaels*  
*Member at Large: Rhonda Behsmann*

1. Call to Order. Mike B. called the meeting to order.
2. Welcome any VISTORS! No visitors.
3. Opening Devotion – PASTOR JOHN
  - a. Pastor led Council in singing “Let My Light Shine Bright”, a song from a recent trip to Camp Vermilion with the 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation class, reflecting on how the lyrics speak to us.
4. Roll call (Quorum = 4 voting Members) All members present.
5. Church Council Duty is now on new assignment sheet and is filled out for most of this year.
6. Announcements
  - a. Council members schedule:
    - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month is Commission Meeting at 7PM in Trinity Hall.
    - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month is Exec. Council Meeting at 5:30PM in Pastors Office.
    - iii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month is Church Council Meeting at 6PM in Trinity Hall.
7. Other Business (This section was moved up due to possible visitor for 7ai part of meeting)
  - a. Buildings & Grounds – SEE PRINTED WORK LIST FROM APRIL MEETING.
    - i. Church basement carpet replacement color & pattern selections?
      1. Bids include fellowship hall, south stairs, north hallway and in front of bathrooms; slight cost differences, all exceeding \$11,000.00.
        - a. **ACTION ITEM: Mike** will defer to WELCA’s preference, then clarify/negotiate bid details with flooring co., and inquire about mop boards.
      2. Additional work: replacing mop boards & cleaning walls.
        - a. **ACTION ITEM: Kyle** will get wall estimates; ServiceMaster & Stoltz Cleaning.
      3. Motion made to provide a budget not to exceed \$13,000.00 for completion of cleaning walls, removal/recycle, installation & mop boards in outlined bid locations.
        - a. 1<sup>st</sup>—Terry H., 2<sup>nd</sup>—Sue M.; Motion passed. No objections.
    - ii. Church Bell Tower ceiling repairs – is council ready to allocate funds for repairs?
      1. **ACTION ITEM: Kyle** will schedule \$20.00 asbestos abatement test for week of 8/16.
      2. **ACTION ITEM: Mike B.** and **Bill Erdman** will create proposal of overall costs including materials, rentals, etc., to repair Bell Tower for Council review and records.
      3. **ACTION ITEM: Julie K.** will review insurance policy re: coverage on in-house construction projects and volunteer workers.
    - iii. Putting fans in Lectern and Pulpit area for cooling.
      1. **ACTION ITEM: Mike B.** will acquire and discreetly install 2 fans not unlike current kitchen fans, at \$40.00-\$50.00 each, in designated areas.
        - a. Strong request: fans must be “whisper quiet” for organist & pastor in that area.
    - iv. ARE WE READY FOR DISCUSSION & MOTION???
      1. Motion to approve Buildings & Grounds.
        - a. 1<sup>st</sup>—Terry H., 2<sup>nd</sup>—Sue M.; Motion passed. No objections.
  - b. Talking Points by Ann Ruedy – UPDATE
    - i. Volunteer callers are struggling with little to no response and lack of connected landlines.
      1. **ACTION ITEM: Ann R.** will research other options, possibly using USPS.
  - c. SJP video project – UPDATE
    - i. DISCUSSION / MOTION
      1. Mike B. provided updates on work completed, next steps and estimated timelines.
      2. Motion made to approve June 2021 proposal for SJP Video Project provided by Mike Behsmann, excluding monitors for sanctuary, totaling \$21,556.94.
        - a. 1<sup>st</sup>—Kyle G., 2<sup>nd</sup>—Terry H.; Motion passed. No objections.
  - d. Open discussion on fund raisers for projects like video upgrade, basement carpet, bell tower ceiling repairs, etc.
    - i. Response to giving is strong when members have specific goals, projects, dollar amounts.
    - ii. SJLC members display a committed effort in fundraising ideas and execution.
      1. Commissions readily available to dispense services.
    - iii. **ACTION ITEM: Mike B.** will contact Brian Knutsen re: pig for possible pig roast.

1. Original goal of Sept., 2021 Pig Roast to celebrate Fall Kick-off/Sunday School.
    - a. Huber Farm unavailable after Sept. 15.
  - e. Discussion of changing commissions & council into meeting on the same evening.
    - i. FYI - Mentioned to commission people and they prefer first Tuesday on each month. All but one wanted 6PM for meeting time.
      1. Consolidating meetings will enhance committee communications, reduce time commitments for dual members, and potentially attract prospective volunteers.
      2. Motion made to consolidate monthly Commission and Council meetings, whereas Commissions meet at 6PM, followed by Council, and whereas Executive Council meets on an “as needed” basis, possibly at the same time as Commissions, but before the Council meeting, and whereas if questions by Commissions arise they are to be asked and answered prior to the start of Council meetings, and whereas monthly consolidated meetings will begin the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of September, 2021, and will continue to be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month, unless agreed upon by voting members of Council.
        - a. 1<sup>st</sup>—Terry H., 2<sup>nd</sup>—Sue. M.; Motion passed. No objections.
  - f. Discussion of changing commissions & council to compensate for open positions.
    - i. Tabled for September 2021 meeting.
  - g. Discussion of changing Executive Council from monthly to quarterly meeting.
    - i. See “7. Other Business, section e., sub-section i.2.”
  - h. Open discussion and / or motion to accept all and close.
    - i. Motion made to close Other Business.
      1. 1<sup>st</sup>—Terry H., 2<sup>nd</sup>—Sue M.; Motion passed. No objections.
8. Regular Business
- a. Secretary’s minutes: No changes needed.
  - b. Financial report: Al Tonn
    - i. Expenses (June and July 2021)
      1. Line 66 (June 2021)—temporary transfer of building projects monies to earn 50% higher interest rate until needed.
      2. Postage spending awareness (July 2021).
      3. TYD expenses vs income deemed “VERY nice” (July 2021).
  - c. Commission of Buildings and Grounds – Kyle Gallagher
    - i. Education building water—billed separately; can SJLC save that cost?
      1. Per City, turning off water supply affects watermain.
      2. City stated 700 gal./month usage; possible leaks/running water?
        - a. **ACTION ITEM: Kyle G.** will turn off education building toilets/sinks to compare usage/verify problems.
    - ii. Elevator: **ACTION ITEM: Kyle G.** will continue to push for completion.
    - iii. AC units: Will need repairs and/or replace.
  - d. Commission on Congregational Life – OPEN!!! (Updates by Sue M.)
    - i. Thrivent Kits: September 12, 2021
    - ii. Pine Ridge
      1. School Kit donations collected/organized
      2. COVID increase may affect travel to Pine Ridge.
  - e. Commission of Worship and Music – Sue Michaels
    - i. Christmas Eve and Day services TBD—tentatively: Friday, 2 services; Sunday 9AM service.
  - f. Commission on Social Ministry and Outreach – OPEN!!! (Updates by Rhonda B.)
    - i. Undie Sunday: August 22, 2021
    - ii. ELCA Youth Gathering 2022, Minneapolis MN
    - iii. Compile/record past procedures re: school kits for future volunteers.
  - g. Education Committee – Terry Huber (Sunday School proposal & discussion)
    - i. Sunday School participation/volunteers decline
      1. New procedure: 1 lesson/month, dismissing students after Children’s Message, beginning September 26, 2021.
        - a. Utilize confirmation students as assistants to teacher(s)
        - b. **ACTION ITEM: Terry H.** will contact Jan Macklay re: music.
9. Pastor’s Report
- a. Baptism: Grayson Bell; Funeral: Marlys Wittmer; Christmas Nativity Drive-thru (tentative 12/17-12/18, 5-8PM), need persons to organize & communicate with volunteers; Camp Vermilion youth Bible camp experience; Youth Director staff person needed—**ACTION ITEM: Mike & Ann** will create job

description using information from 3G records and Rhonda's conversation with Marty; 8 pastoral visits in 8 weeks.

10. Next Meeting is Set for: Sept. 14, 2021 – 6PM
  - a. Commissions begin 6PM, followed by Council
    - i. **ACTION ITEM:** Pastor John/Julie K. will include in bulletin, Lifeline, announcements, website.
    - ii. **ACTION ITEM:** Council members will email their Commission members.
11. Additional Discussion / motion to adjourn.
  - a. Motion made to adjourn meeting.
    - i. 1<sup>st</sup>—Kyle G., 2<sup>nd</sup>—Rhonda B.; Motion passed. No objections.
12. I ask that "Church Reopening Committee" meet after council meeting for a couple of minutes for a short discussion regarding COVID.
  - a. Due to recent increase in COVID numbers in Waseca Co., SJLC recommends but does not require masks during worship.
13. Adjournment and Pastor John lead in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by: Koni Hudak, Council Secretary

Council President: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_