

St Andrew's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Agenda
March 24, 6:00 pm (via Zoom)

*St. Andrew's is recognized as a Christian community,
celebrating God's love through serving others, and working for peace and justice.*

Call to order The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM. Present: David Putz, Randy Sacco, Janeen Christy, Janet Dixon, Mary Johnson, Lori Paulson, Nora Nelson, Laurie Hoifeldt, Pastor Sonja Gerstenberger.

Approval/Revision of Agenda Agenda approved.

Council Devotion/Reflection – Pastor (Acts, last session) Pastor led devotion from the Book of Acts. “Faith is a way God delights us with surprise. The story continues with us.”

Consent Agenda

- Approval of previous minutes
 - February 2022 minutes, January 2022 minutes, December 2021 minutes
 - The February 2022 minutes were amended with who was in attendance. Motion made to approve January and February minutes, as amended. Seconded and approved.
 - December 2021 minutes still need to be updated by Lori Paulson and Janet Dixon. Motion made to table and approve minutes at April meeting. Seconded and approved.

President Updates

- Walking Together – confirmed 6pm, April 5 @ SALC
 - Remaining steps
 - David Putz noted that the prep work for the April 5 “Walking Together” meeting with the Synod is complete. We will receive feedback from the Synod followed by a second meeting with a smaller group to present the review to the Pastor.

New Business

- Easter Breakfast – Kris Parsons leading, congregation effort – how to support
- Preparations for the Easter breakfast are underway. The Council is being asked to reach out to their committees and to provide names of potential volunteer servers, cleaning crew and greeters to Kris Parsons and Carol Putz by April 7.
- Laurie Hoifeldt discussed her donation of art for a silent auction during this year's Easter breakfast. Bidders on art will not receive documentation of their bids for tax purposes since something of value is being received, and this will be made clear at the silent auction. Motion made that a minimum bid amount (to cover costs) would be set for items and that proceeds over that amount would be donated to the Lenten offering. Seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report – Janet

Through February, contributions have been ahead of budget (27.7% actual v. 16.7% budget). Expenses are under budget (13.9% actual v. 16.7% budget). The Pine Ridge Ministry realized substantial income from a jewelry sale fundraiser to fund a heating system. Financial issues regarding Colorado Junction/rental properties will be addressed later in the meeting.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Sonja

Pastor Sonja reported that the Outreach Committee had undertaken a direct mail campaign to approximately 900 homes to raise visibility about our Holy Week services and Easter Breakfast. Caitlyn has completed the search engine optimization work on the website and we are receiving regular usage reports from Google. The pastor will be providing a link to an article entitled, “Six Predictions for the Post-Pandemic Church” from Christian Century magazine that the Council is asked to read before the next visioning session.

Old Business

- COVID Policy
 - Motion made to approve the policy that was presented at February's meeting and has been in place. Seconded and approved.
- Visioning Work
 - Discussion of "Any other" results
 - Next steps
 - Dave requested that the Council review the document titled "The Values Question of Visioning Work - Initial" which is stored in the visioning folder. The Council is tasked with identifying duplicate versus unique themes in the "anything else" question. Feedback should be forwarded to Dave by Friday, April 1.
- Discussion and feedback on revised Wedding Policy Handbook
 - Pastor Sonja presented the revised handbook. A motion was made to approve the handbook. Seconded and approved.
 - Pastor Sonja will be following up with Mary Johnson regarding serving as a wedding coordinator.
- Application for Celebration Grant – Update
 - Dave provided an update on the Celebration Grant application and noted that funds could not be directed to outside organizations that we would choose to partner with. Funds will be used to purchase tangible items for kits for refugees.
- Synod Assembly – May 20-21, Coralville
 - <https://seiasynod.org/assembly/>
 - Pastor Sonja will attend and two others will need to attend (overnight). Mary and Laurie expressed interest. Those interested need to contact Dave by April 7.
- Colorado Junction – Update and discussion of information needed
 - Dave, Janet, and Linda Severson have been following up with the bank and First Property Management regarding a past due mortgage payment on the rental properties initiated by First Property Management. No late fees were assessed by the bank and our relationship with the bank is a solid footing. \$9000 in repair bills will come due soon and there is a need for additional funds from the line of credit. Motion made to extend the remaining \$15,000 on the \$25,000 line of credit to pay rental expenses. Seconded and approved.
 - The Executive Committee of the Council will meet next week to discuss information needed and next steps regarding Colorado Junction. Council members are asked to contribute feedback. A folder in Google docs will be created for "Colorado Junction."

Committee Updates/Reports *(Updates provided as available, important items discussed/acted on)*

- **Education** - Mary
 - Summer activities are being planned. Vacation Bible School with Bethesda Lutheran will be held August 8-12 at SALC.
- **EMF** – David, scholarships for 2022-2023 school year
- **Fellowship** – Lori
 - Fellowship is meeting again. The preparations for the Milt Allison funeral were successful. Gayle is looking to step down as Fellowship Committee Co-chair.
- **Outreach** – Steve
- **Property** – Steve
 - Nora reported that Alliant Energy conducted a boiler efficiency study. Gas usage and costs have decreased.
- **Social Concerns** – Al No updates.
- **Stewardship & Finance** – Janet No updates.
- **Worship & Arts** – Laurie No updates.

- **Pine Ridge/Tanzania** – Randy
 - The PRMT will place an item in the Friday Flash reminding folks to clean their items for donation before dropping them off.
- **Audit** – David, no updates
- **Personnel** – David, Minister of Service & Learning adjustments
 - Adjustments have been made to the work hours and pay structure for Courtney, the Minister of Service and Learning. Pastor and volunteers will supplement the work of Service and Learning staff.
 - Service and Learning is continuing with breakfast. Volunteers are asked to sign up to bring a simple breakfast.

April Council Meeting Devotions: ? (with Acts review complete, need someone to take lead) Randy Sacco will lead devotions.

Closing Prayer

Meeting adjourned: 8:47 PM

Next Meeting (meeting in April 28th)

Dave will find a substitute to take minutes in Janeen's absence.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: Janeen Christy, 4/4/2022