



# ZION Lutheran Church

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**REV. SCOTT LUDFORD**  
Senior Pastor

Council President

## Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting October 19, 2021 – 6pm at Zion

**Call to Order:** Vice-President Al Wichmann at 6:01 pm.

**Present:** Al Wichmann, Pastor Scott, Scott Glysch, Mike Eidahl, Ginny Vraney, Bobbi Krozell, Steve Laude and Julie Effenberger

**Absent:** Nancy Schultz, Dan Krone

**Devotions:** Scott Glysch

**Sound Off:** None

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by Ginny and seconded by Scott Glysch to approve the minutes as printed for the September 21, 2021 Council meeting. *Motion carried.*
2. **Pastors Report:** Pastor Scott brought to the council's attention a few families in our congregation that we prayed for. Pastor also noted that in February he was elected Dean of our conference and since then he has served as a resource member and a mentor to many pastors and congregations in our conference.
3. **Treasurer's Report**
  - a. **Accounting Fund Balance** – Mike explained that they worked with Zach Linsmeyer from KerberRose, who did our audit, and balanced the Accounting Fund Balances Report. As noted on the report, we currently have a positive balance of \$1,006.71. A motion was made Bobbi and seconded by Steve to accept the Accounting Fund Balances report. *Motion carried.*
  - b. **Accounts Payable** – Al advised that there was not a list of tabulated bills to be paid available so Mike made the motion, seconded by Ginny to approve the normal bills for payment and when Debbie was back in the office we would receive a copy of the tabulated bills. *Motion carried.*
4. **Finance Committee:** Al noted that the Finance Committee voted to again offer the Gold Plus Level Benefit Plan from Portico to Pastor Scott and Debbie. This benefit plan would be no additional cost to the congregation and will be voted on in New Business. They are also working on next year's spending plan and getting budget worksheets out to the committees.
5. **Old Business**
  - a. **Furnace/AC Replacement Update:** Steve had nothing to report at this time.
  - b. **Flag Pole:** Steve stated they had picked an area to install the flag pole and he will donate his time and materials to install. It was donated to our church from the local Veterans group in recognition of all the events Pastor Scott has officiated/participated in for them. A motion was made by Julie and seconded by Mike to approve the installation of the flag pole to be overseen by Steve. Al was the lone vote no, *Motion carried.*
  - c. **Camera Equipment:** The funds for the camera equipment of \$5,736 has been taken out of the Lois Kruse Benevolent Fund #15 and paid to Clint WhiteHorse.

## 6. New Business

- a. **Membership Transfer In:** A motion was made by Scott Glysch and seconded by Bobbi to accept the Certificate of Transfer from Our Saviors Lutheran Church of Neenah on Jason and Kelly Nelson and their children, James and Brooke to Zion Lutheran Church. *Motion carried.*
- b. **Portico Benefit Plan:** Al again briefed us on the Portico benefit plan, which the Finance Committee had approved, then made the motion which was seconded by Bobbi to approve the Gold Plus Benefit Plan for Pastor Scott and Debbie. *Motion carried.*
- c. **Pastor's Housing Allowance:** Pastor Scott advised the council that he and his wife met with his CPA and Mike Eidahl to discuss adjusting his housing allowance for tax purposes in 2022. The CPA informed them that rent/mortgage payments, utilities, home improvements, etc., can all be put into the housing allowance, which Pastor would have had an additional \$7,000 that could have gone in that category this last year. The housing allowance was set at the time of Pastor's call and has not been adjusted since, even though he has suggested increasing it. Now they need to install a new roof which will be somewhere around the \$10,000 range. Pastor Scott is asking to change that housing allowance amount to \$30,000, which does not change his salary and does not cost the church any additional money. It would be allocating \$30,000 less from his salary to be put into housing allowance which would help lower his income tax. A lengthy discussion was held and Al and Mike would like more information and are waiting to hear back from Pastor Scott's CPA and another CPA before making a decision. Al made the motion to table this issue until next month's meeting, was seconded by Mike but the motion did not pass. After more discussion Pastor Scott moved to table the issue until next month but no one seconded the motion. Finally, after further debate, Scott Glysch made the motion to table this housing allowance issue until next month's meeting so more information can be gathered, it was seconded by Pastor Scott. *Motion carried.*

**Committee Reports.** Refer to printed reports available.

- **Church and Society**
- **Education**
- **Health Ministry** – Minutes attached. Ginny reminded everyone that the AED battery has come in and is now in use. Also, October is Socktober, please fill the church bin with socks that will be taken to Safe Haven and Sam 25. Their committee will also be looking into doing Christmas projects.
- **Life & Growth** – Bobbi noted she is unsure what to do where birthday signs are concerned, deciding what ages should get the signs as it is impossible to get every member a sign.
- **Property**
- **Stewardship**
- **Worship & Music** – Minutes attached.
- **Youth**

Motion to accept all committee reports was made by Scott Glysch, seconded by Mike. *Motion carried.*

Al mentioned a calendar was not included but will be available on the church's website. He is also looking at filling council positions for next year and will be contacting committee members to get a nominating committee started. A motion was then made by Scott Glysch and seconded by Ginny to adjourn meeting at 7:24 pm. *Motion carried.*

**Closing Prayer:** Scott Glysch

Respectfully submitted,  
*Julie Effenberger, Council Secretary*