



ZION Lutheran Church

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REV. SCOTT LUDFORD
Senior Pastor

Council President

Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting August 15, 2023 – 6pm at Zion

Call to Order: President Bob Hass at 5:58 pm.

Present: Bob Hass, Pastor Scott, Mike Eidahl, Karen Fusek, Tom Laude, Judy Laude, Curt Preston, Aidan Preston, Nancy Schultz, Michael Sleeper and Julie Effenberger.

Absent: Keith Milner

Devotions: Bob Hass

Sound Off: None

DRAFT

1. **Pastor's Report:** Pastor Scott is presently planning and organizing numerous classes for the fall. He is lining up the whole year of classes for confirmation students, as well as preparing for this year's confirmands. He will be doing a 1st Communion Class in September along with New Membership Orientation as a number of people desire to join our congregation. He just recently updated the Usher Manual so he would like to hold a couple Usher Orientations along with a Welcomer's Orientation. He really wants to get back to lay assistants signing up ahead of time to help him with services. He would like to introduce Adult Classes later in the Fall. He reported the new hires, Ann Johnson, Kay Kristof and Marcus Cicero are all doing great jobs and he couldn't be any happier. On Friday morning a company is coming in to talk to him and Chris Dalke about the security of our church doors. When Keith Milner is free he will be coming in to review our phone system as we are not able to retrieve any of our voice messages and may have to replace our phone system. A discussion was held about having a backup plan for future employees leaving and protecting the church.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Nancy and seconded by Karen to approve the minutes as printed for the June 20, 2023, Council Meeting. *Motion carried.* (Note: no council meeting was held in July)
3. **Treasurer's Report**
 - a. **Accounting Fund Balance** – Mike Eidahl reviewed the Accounting Fund Balance Report, noting we ended the month of July with -\$10,916.53.
 - b. **Accounts Payable** – Mike also reviewed the accounts payable report. A motion was made by Julie and seconded by Judy to approve the Accounting Fund Balance Report and to approve the bills listed for payment. *Motion carried.*
4. **Finance Committee:** Michael Sleeper advised they met last week and two representatives from BMO Harris Bank joined their meeting. The Finance Committee recommends opening a Money Market Account at BMO and transferring \$100,000 from our checking account into this new account. There are no fees to establish this, the funds are much safer in this type of account and there is a better return on the funds. Michael Sleeper made the motion, which was seconded by Tom to open a Money Market Account at BMO Harris Bank and transfer \$100,000

from our checking into this new Money Market Account. **Motion carried.** Next, Michael stated the Finance Committee recommends the establishment of a Business Line of Credit for \$500,000. There is a one time fee of \$250 and takes approximately 30-45 days to process, but then it is always available in the case of an emergency. Michael moved that we establish a \$500,000 line of credit and that church council approval would be required to take action on this line of credit. Curt seconded the motion, **Motion carried.** Mike Eidahl reported the Endowment Fund has done very well and the goal is to give grants and scholarships not to exceed 5% of the \$906,000 balance. This year they will be gifting all 10 applicants who filled out applications for a total of \$45,000. Michael Sleeper advised the council that Ron Malueg and Char Larsen have agreed to assist with the church audit which they plan on doing next week. Mike Eidahl, Al Wichmann and Michael Sleeper will be present for the audit and other Finance members are welcome as well. Lastly, a discussion was held on the current policy regarding the usage of Zion property and facilities. This is a subject that should be reviewed in the near future and maybe update the policy, as Pastor Scott last updated it 8 years ago.

5. Old Business

- a. **Updating Security System:** Keith Milner was unable to attend the meeting.
- b. **Updating Constitution:** Mike downloaded the files from the synod office and needs the help of others to review the changes to see which ones we want to update. At this time they could also review the By-laws to see if any changes need to be made there as well.
- c. **Hiring Health & Wellness Coordinator Update:** Mike advised the council that they've pretty much agreed with the Health Ministry Committee on the job description, now they need to settle on advertising the hours and how those hours are split up along with wages.
- d. **Task Force for Youth & Family Ministry Staff Update:** Curt and Joel Yeakey and Pastor Scott met in July. Curt has reached out to the synod twice and has not heard back from them. Pastor Scott and Bob will be meeting with Pastor Honig in Door County tomorrow to see how their parish found their Youth and Family Ministry Staff person. Pastor Scott felt we should get a job description drafted and then start by advertising it in the synod news.

b. New Business

- a. **Membership Application:** An Application for Membership was received by Brian, Kris, Taylor and Allison Johnson. Julie made the motion which was seconded by Michael Sleeper to approve the Application of Membership for Brian and Kris Johnson along with their daughters Taylor and Allison. **Motion carried.**
- b. **Installation Update of Wireless Internet Console:** Keith was unable to attend the meeting.
- c. **Stewardship Sunday:** Keith Milner and Scott Glysch are presently working on this and it is scheduled for November 5th. Keith will report more next month.
- d. **Sunday School Technology Upgrade:** Equipment has been purchased and Judy stated they will be meeting next week and will then review the new technology.
- e. **Zion \$500 Contribution to SAM25 through HMC:** Karen reported that the Health Ministry Committee is donating \$500 to SAM25 Health Clinic for either a lab, registration or exam room. They will put up a plaque on the door with a Bible Verse stating this has been donated by the congregation of Zion Lutheran Church through it's Health Ministry Committee.
- f. **Painting Bell Tower:** It was noted this should be repainted and a few council members were going to look into who can do this.
- g. **Review By-laws:** This was mentioned earlier to update along with our constitution.

Committee Reports. Refer to printed reports available.

- **Church and Society**
- **Education** – Judy noted they will meet next week to finalize the curriculum but they would like to divide the students up this year so they will need more Sunday School Teachers or Co-Teachers.

- **Health Ministry** – Minutes attached.
- **Life & Growth** –
- **Property** – Minutes attached. Tom also pointed out they were wondering how to dispose of old computers so no information can be retrieved from them. We were told to remove the hard drive and drill a hole in it and then dispose accordingly. Also, as Pastor stated, there is no support for our phone system through Frontier and hoping Keith can help us with this issue. Recently there was a phone that connected to the Zion guest network that was compromised with malware but our firewall did its job and blocked that IP address.
- **Stewardship** – Minutes attached.
- **Worship & Music** – Minutes attached.
- **Youth** – Minutes attached.

Motion to accept all Committee Reports as presented was made by Michael and seconded by Nancy.
Motion carried.

Zion's Calendar for September was also enclosed in our packets and reviewed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Julie and seconded by Tom. ***Motion carried.*** Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Closing Prayer: The Lord's Prayer by All

Respectfully submitted by:
Julie Effenberger,
Council Secretary

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