



ZION Lutheran Church

1254 S. Union Street, Shawano, WI 54166-3461
715-526-2017 zion@shawanozion.org www.shawanozion.org

REV. SCOTT LUDFORD
Senior Pastor

MIKE EIDAHL
Council President

Zion Lutheran Church Congregational Council Meeting March 17, 2020 – 6pm

Present: Mike Eidahl, Gordon Holten, Al Wichmann, Dawn Brock, Bobbi Krozell, Dan Krone, Ginny Vraney, Russ Wise, Pastor Ludford, Scott Glysch

Absent: Carey Grieves, Tammy Huebner, Jamie Naparalla

Call to Order: President Mike Eidahl called the meeting to order at 6:02pm

Devotions: Scott Glysch

Sound Off: Dr. Mindy Frimodig stopped in to provide a health provider update to the Coronavirus COVID-19 update. She mentioned that the situation continues to change by the hour. She talked about the current testing guidelines and that they currently cannot test any person that is not showing systems. She stressed the need for social distancing to help slow down the speed of this virus so that hospitals and the health industry can try and keep up with the demand while staying safe themselves. She also provided us the CDC recommendation that anyone that has travelled to a different region of the country MUST self-quarantine for 14 days from the date of return in order help prevent the spread of the virus prior to returning to work or society.

- 1) Dan Krone was appointed/volunteered to take minutes in Carey's absence.
- 2) Addendum to agenda. Item D – Removed from agenda, F – Suspending church activities, G – How to handle personnel/staffing during this time period. Item a under Finance Committee report was removed.
- 3) **Approval of Minutes:** Motion from Scott G., seconded by Ginny. *Motion passed.*
- 4) **Financial Report** – Accounting fund balances and report was reviewed by Gordon. The general fund had a poor month in February and has turned negative now to a point of concern. It is concerning especially since the Pandemic has hit our country. Lines 15 & 21 of the report for the spending funds will have a lot more in those funds as the money was transferred but was not shown in the financial report. Accounts payable – reviewed by Gordon. Al mentioned he will contact Sperberg about the amount and bills for the snow removal and ask questions about their invoices. Motion was made by Gordon and second by Al. *Motion passed.*
- 5) **Finance Committee** – Al provided a chart with a review of contributions received. He noted that 2018 and 2019 had seen fairly good size decrease in giving the last couple of years. The Finance Committee was going to send out a letter to the congregation about giving and the option for direct deposit or other options – especially during this pandemic as church bills and payroll will continue during this period.

6) **Old Business** – Mike mentioned that there were still spots to be signed up for devotions – however with future schedule could be up in the air due to possibly not meeting for a while and he wasn't sure what that would do to the current schedule.

7) **New Business**

- a) Kenneth Herm request to transfer in from Resurrection and Deb Larson request to transfer in from Zion Lutheran Grand Rapids, MN both requested to transfer into membership. Motion made to accept by Dawn, second Ginny. ***Motion passed.***
- b) Declined Easter Advertising on the radio.
- c) Personnel Committee Rep from council needs to be filled. Scott G. volunteered pending home approval.
- d) Sky lights in commons. It was said that we were still waiting on a second bid on these lights. Bobbi mentioned that she just replaced two windows at her home last year for \$1500 and it was done by the company G-Force. Bobbi was going to give this number to Al to contact. Pastor Scott and others mentioned that we could place this project on hold for now. There has not been any leaks from these windows in a long time (Pastor could not remember it ever leaking since he was here), especially with current general account deficit. It was decided that Al would try to get the last two bids and we could review as a council via email in the near future.
- e) Suspending operations. Governor of WI has recommended that groups no larger than 50 people take place due to the pandemic. The length of this is not known at this time. Motion was made from Pastor Scott : **'To suspend all church activities and services until further notice.'** **This will continue until we are given approval from state/health department that it is safe to continue in-person activities.** Motion to pass made by Al and second by Mike. ***Motion passed.***
- f) ***So what does this mean:*** The sanctuary is currently being retro fitted for services to be live streamed on the internet. WhiteHorse Media who is owned by a member along with other members (sorry not listed here in fear of missing someone) set up cameras and sound equipment. News will be sent out tomorrow morning – through news media, email, Facebook and USPS for the current status of our building. The services – both Wednesdays and Sundays will be available on Live Stream, with a link of them to be put on the website and DVDs made to those who cannot use the streaming media. Custodians, who have been working extremely hard, will continue the task of a thorough building cleaning. Once rooms are cleaned they will be locked and labelled/sealed as being a sanitized room.
- g) **Personnel Decisions** – Decision was made by Council that Pastor Scott would have a staff meeting ASAP. We will continue to keep current staff working normal hours for now. There is a need to catch up on projects that have been put on the back burner. Also, they will need to push a lot of communication to our membership to make sure that everyone is up to date in the new media and how we will need to worship in this new era. Jennifer is currently travelling and will need to undergo a 14-day quarantine upon returning prior to returning to work. Once work is caught up and if it goes on long enough, future decisions will be made as needed. What about committees and future council meetings – rooms could be made available in the church but it was strongly recommended that all meetings try to be done via conference call, video room, etc. to help keep the pandemic from spreading.

Committee Reports

Refer to printed reports in packet.

- **Building and Grounds**
- **Church in Society**
- **Education**
- **Health Ministry** – Relay for Life has been postponed
- **Stewardship Report**
- **Worship & Music** – Pastor Scott raised the question about what would happen if he were to get sick and quarantined. What plan do we have in place? Not only now but any given Sunday? Looking possibly tape additional service or two in case, also Ginny made recommendation to put written sermons on the website for people to read.
- **Youth** – BYG was cancelled. Also all of plans are currently on hold or cancelled until the pandemic passes and it is safe to get back together.

Motion to accept all committee reports by Al, second Ginny. ***Motion passed.***

For now, no April In-Person Council meeting is scheduled.

Concluded with a Pandemic prayer and the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned. 7:35pm