

## **COFFEE WITH COUNCIL**

### **11-22-20**

Attendees: Pam Meek, Sara Meyers, Ron Easton, Nancy Cramer, Carla Girkin, Phil Gross, Niel Johnson, Ron Schwantes, David Fast, Bob & Sharon LeVasseur, Paul Blixrud, Suelyn Olson, and Pr Sarah Pierce.

Pr Sarah Pierce was introduced as our new part time SAM (synod authorized minister). The covenant between All Saints and her has been signed and approved by the synod office with a starting date of 11/29/20. She met a lot of members at our outdoor/parking lot worship on 11/8/20 but time was spent introducing everyone attending the meeting. She is a cradle Lutheran. Both parents are Lutheran ministers and one grandfather was also a minister. She and her family live in Liberty, MO and she works full time for MOSAIC Life Care in St Joseph. Office hours will be on Wednesdays. She and her wife, Rebecca, have a 17 yr old son, Charlie, and a 10 yr old daughter, Anna. Anna will attend church with them. She completed an internship at St James Lutheran church on Barry Rd in October 2020. She will graduate in December 2020 from Luther Seminary in St Paul, MN.

Ron E participated in a webinar that helped solve some issues with the website. All services have been posted. He will work with Pr Sarah to discuss options for technology, what we have done in the past, and what we would like to do in the future. He live streamed the September outdoor service but was not able to attend the November service.

We are trying to nail down what we can do for Advent and Christmas. Ron E has asked for ideas of items to post on the website throughout the seasons to keep it fresh. Our original plan to have the youth decorate a smaller Christmas tree in the sanctuary has been altered due to COVID exposure. Paul Blixrud and Suelyn Olson volunteered to assemble the tree this afternoon. Teresa Dustin was dropping off clear lights for the tree. Ron E will get with Anne Lee about the chrismons. He and his niece, Katie Dustin, will decorate the tree. Sara and Marty Meyers will put up the blue paraments and small banner on Monday, 11/23/20. Phil Gross has been asked to get the Advent wreath out of the storage shed and put it in the sanctuary. Virtual services will be the best option for now since COVID numbers keep spiking. Pr Sarah will meet with Ron E, Sara Meyers, and David to discuss services. David will help in any way possible to provide music. David has been in contact with Ben from Ben's Lawn and Garden about poinsettias. Notification (email, text) to members asking if they want to purchase plants to decorate the sanctuary. He will get the cost. Orders will need to be placed by 11/29/20. He will check with Jean Meroni, church secretary, to see if she has received info from them and coordinate with her.

Blue Ridge Trinity Lutheran church in Raytown is closing. They voted last Sunday to close and there last service may be early as 11/29/20. They are

dispersing items. David has requested the oil candles and the brass Advent wreath stand. We will extend an invitation to their members to consider us for their new church home.

Doug Neeb is working on the 2021 budget. It will be presented at a congregational meeting via Zoom on 12/20/20 at 11 am. Doug and Tammy have moved from Blue Springs to a rental loft in downtown Kansas City. They will begin moving to their retirement home in North Carolina after the first of the year. We still need a member to take over the treasurer's job. Contact Pam or Doug before 12/31/20 if you are interested.

The virtual silent auction will be available online from 12/1/20-12/5/20. Once pictures of all items are taken, the items will be consolidated and moved to the SS room until they are picked up by the winning bidders.

Pastor Bill George is home and recuperating. He will have some physical therapy as he continues to heal. He has asked to put a final article in the December newsletter. We will continue to keep him and his wife, Carla, in our prayers.

Phil encouraged council to send brief emails to keep members updated with any new information.