

St. John's Bennington Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Sunday, March 14th, 2021 after worship

Present: Kayla Bedard, Brenda Clark, Jerry Mixdorf, Denise Pierce, Jeff Seamans, Joe Stafford, Willie Wolfe, Brandy Zuck

Absent: Pastor Blank

Meeting Called to Order by Denise

1. Opening Prayer by Denise

2. Secretary's Minutes by Kayla

- a. **Approved** by Brandy, **second** by Jerry

3. Financial Report

a. **Treasurer** by Brandy

- i. **Checkbook balance (end of February):** \$27,876.46
ii. **Savings/memorial balance (end of February):** \$24,469.28

b. **Financial Secretary Report** by Brenda

- i. **General funds total of last month:** \$5,565.50
ii. **Scholarship fund:** \$3,166
1. **Approved** by Jeff, **second** by Jerry

4. President's Report by Denise

- a. Volunteers for the following positions have been confirmed:
i. **Deacon:** Dan Salisbury
ii. **Secretary:** Deanne Kuenstling
iii. **Finance Committee:** Drew Speer
b. Need to fill the LYO position

5. Committee Reports

a. **Finance** by Brandy

- i. Now have a letter stating that it is mandatory to move our box from Dunkerton FS Bank
1. Need to determine what is in it, we also have a fireproof safe that could be used
2. Denise will make a few calls to try to locate key; otherwise, will have it drilled

6. Old Business

- a. Approved Pastor's contract for a year (February 2021 to January 2022) at the annual meeting
b. Parking lot: Joe will follow-up and report back

7. New Business

- a. Joe noted the high usage of LP... Will have someone come check out furnaces
b. Helping Hands opportunity for giving to keep on radar: Fundraiser for Betsy McDougall (6/6/2021)
c. Fire extinguishers have been checked by Trustees (needed 2 new ones)
d. Easter Service at 10:15am

- i. Pastor Brackett will do service
 - ii. Will have communion
 - iii. Gale will be the organist and will have songs
- e. Church laptop
 - i. Need Office 365 for the laptop so it has the technology capabilities (about \$100/year)
 - 1. Joe motioned, Brandy second
- f. Camera and a tripod
 - i. Been using Jessica and Travis' equipment for services
 - ii. Should the church purchase their own (\$50-100 investment)?
 - iii. Travis will continue to look into the option as we determine how long-term this will be
 - iv. Council leaning towards the investment but will vote next meeting
- g. Sunday School
 - i. Beginning in-person on March 21st
 - ii. Will be in group settings in the large fellowship space
- h. Acolytes
 - i. 1/11 kids replied about doing it
 - ii. Alex will be the first acolyte on March 21st
 - iii. Brenda will reach out to families regarding how acolytes will be scheduled or doing their own scheduling moving forward
- i. Online giving
 - i. Jeff will look into this and bring a few recommendations
- j. Pastor Blank
 - i. Sending prayers to Pastor during his chemo and care treatments
 - ii. He is hoping to Zoom or be in-person as much as he can, but we are taking it day by day
- k. Wedding
 - i. Josh and Hannah's upcoming wedding: Pastor is doing the premarital meetings via Zoom and will find a pastor for their service
- l. Baptism
 - i. Devin and Kym Kuenstling's boy, Gunnar Kuenstling, will be scheduling a day with Pastor when he is in-person
- m. Bible dedications
 - i. Denise will talk to Kelli about when to do this for the kids
- n. Organist
 - i. Council agreed that having someone at church to play is nice for the congregation
- o. Memorial funds from Phyllis Mixdorf
 - i. Jerry suggested to use funds for automatic door openers on the bathroom doors

8. Announcements

Next "special" meeting will be Sunday, March 21st, after worship

Next council meeting will be Sunday, April 18th, after worship

Motion made to adjourn by Jeff, Brandy

All stood and said The Lord's Prayer