

Knife River Lutheran Church
Council
6/8/24

Present: Helene Hedlund, David Grong, Jan Swanson, Jillian McCorison, Steve Berger, Vicky Gorman, Kay Bloom, Gretta Ojard, Ed Lee

Absent: LeAllyn Estrem

President: Helene Hedlund opened the meeting at 10:25 AM

Opening Prayer: was given by Kay Bloom

Agenda: was approved.

Minutes: There was a motion to approve the Minutes from 5/4/25. It was seconded and passed.

Treasury Report: There was a motion to approve the Treasury Report through 5/31/25. It was seconded and passed.

Endowment Committee: Lawrence Burkhardt will finish Phil Berges' term and Lawrence has been elected **Chair of the Endowment Committee.**

Property Committee: Heat for the Pastoral Office has been fixed by **Pete Stoddard.** The bookcase has been rehoused at the Bookstore in Two Harbors. A redesign for the office was discussed.

There was a motion to approve a request for \$4,495 for Office redesign. This motion was amended to be changed to \$4,500. The motion was seconded and passed.

Pastor Susan: The photo of Pastor Susan has gone home with her as she requested.

Fall Fest/Fall Dinner: Helene will connect with **Kay Struve, Kristy Pollard, and Melanie McMillion** to see if there is any interest to Organize a Fall Fest or Fall Dinner. Other events that may conflict with a Fall Event would be Julebyen.

The Fall Fest in the past has raised the following funds:

2020	\$7,391.72. to Kitchen Debt
2021	\$5,473.98 to Kitchen Debt
2022	none

2023	\$4,613.81 to Memorial Garden
2024	\$4,5225.19 to ELCA World Hunger

Meatball Dinner raised:

2022	\$2,655.81 to General Outreach
2023	\$2,630.00 to Outreach
2024	none

Vacation Bible School: **Jillian** has announced that the Vacation Bible School will be held in early August. She has an idea for a Musical there may be a need for 15-20 students.

Counters/Usher: **Mike Gary** previously counted attendance at Sunday Service. There was discussion to see if having the Ushers do this count on Sunday would be more helpful. **Melanie** in the past, had felt it was easier for the counters to do the count. It was felt the Ushers may have a better visual on counting the members. **Helene** will discuss this with **Melanie**.

Pastor Transition Team: A huge thank you for such a great event, especially to **Melanie McMillion** who chaired the lovely day to say good-bye to **Pastor Susan**. It will be hard to list all those involved, however, this membership gave their hearts and love to **Pastor Susan** on her last day.

Administrative Assistant: A proposed candidate was interviewed. It was presented that this candidate has strong organizations skills, heavy computer skills, excellent Excel experience and flexibility. The ten hour a week job will have a combination of 3 hours on site and flexibility for retainer to be remote.

The Council will approve to hire the candidate with the approval of the congregation to increase the budget as it relates to salary expenses. The congregation will be given two week notice of a meeting requesting an increase in the budget.

Discussion of how to pay for this new position was lengthy, there is much we do not know at this time in the future hiring of an Interim Pastor, and eventually a full time Pastor.

The Council feels **Melanies'** request to vacate her volunteer position of many years should be honored.

The message to be given to the membership from the Council will be as follows:

“We believe we can manage this next year in transition, including hiring an Assistant Administrator, an Interim and eventually a new Pastor.” How to finance all of this has a possibility of a three optional pathway.

- 1) Increase giving
- 2) Utilize Savings
- 3) If necessary, take from the Property Fund

All of this requires Faith to move forward. The Council feels we should trust in the process.

A Special Congregational Meeting will need to be scheduled due to the amount of funds needed to cover an Administrator/Assistant position.

The Proposed By-Law changes should be presented at a later date.

Motion: Seconded and Passed.

The KRLC Council recommends the addition of a line item in the Annual Budget for expenses related to an Administrative Assistant position. The expense is estimated to be \$12,000/year (approximately \$6,000 in 2025) and that a special meeting of the congregation be called seeking approval of this budget change.

The following items have been tabled for future discussion:

Archive

Policy Review

Pastor Transition, there is no Interim as of yet.

Worship Committee:

The Worship Committee has been requested to take on the task of recommending a replacement for Carol Carlson, she will be retiring early fall. A budget is already in place for this position. The Worship Committee should form their own committee for this search and give a recommendation to Council by Sept 1, 2025.

Outdoor Service: Weather permitting, to start June 22, 2025.

New Business for next month: Please add Voyager Lutheran Ministry to the Agenda.

Upcoming Dates:

June 22, Special Meeting to follow Service to discuss the new Administrative position.

July 13, Sit Down Council meeting to be scheduled.

Meeting closed at noon with a prayer.

Respectfully. Kay Bloom, Recording Secretary.