

August 11, 2025 Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Maureen Even.

Present: Pastor Mohr-Kelly, Shirley Bergman, Amber Reuter, Mike Waring, Christy Phillips, and Mary Adams. Absent: Sara Borland

Pastor led a devotion from Psalm 127.

Mike Waring asked to add an addition of the Lions Club shoe drive to be added under New Business. Motion by Cindy to approve. Second by Shirley. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Cindy has fixed federal state withholdings on the July report. Motion by Mike. Mary second. Motion carried.

Mike pointed out the transfers in improvement, youth and benevolence funds for July & August. Cindy said the CD is now at 4% for 3 months. Maureen pointed out insurance was paid so expenses should go down. Cindy did complete the workers comp paperwork and the premium will increase but not up to the premium when we had a full-time pastor. Mary motion to approve. Second by Christy. Motion carried.

Secretary Report:

There were a couple grammatical things that were updated. Discussion was about how detailed the meeting notes need to be. Question was brought up that the time stamp on the July 28th meeting was the same as the July 14th meeting. Amber believes it was around 8 p.m. Cindy motioned to approve the July minutes. Second by Mike. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality Reports: August fellowship hosts are set through August. Cindy will line up for the last 3 Sundays in September.

Parish Ed/Youth: Christy shared VBS went really well. 60-65 kids each night. Parish Ed will meet August 13 to get ready for Worship Wednesday which will start after Labor Day. Chris will send out postcards to the families with youth.

Property/Technology: Mike shared the last thing left to fix is the elevator. He should have a quote tomorrow so we can then file insurance. There was a mistake on the claim previously, that the laptop used for worship was on there. Mike had them remove that from the initial claim. Mike recorded on Sunday, but the volume wasn't working. Anthony Bahe with Heartland Technology came and looked at it. The boxes are \$70-\$75, so Mike had it ordered. Cindy recommends that after the elevator is fixed, we discontinue service with

Schindler and switch to another provider because of the response time and service we have received. Schumacher could be good alternative.

Shirley mentioned the fire extinguishers will need to be checked. Mike will call and have them checked.

Scholarship:Maureen mentioned we won't really have anything until spring.

Worship and Music:

Shirley shared we have had smaller numbers this summer. Pastor believes Praise Worship attendance will increase with confirmation. Two baptisms this past Sunday. Next Sunday will be sending of the college students. August 24 will be the blessing of school children. Wendall mentioned to Pastor that the Independence Bulletin Journal only lists the 9 a.m. service. Mike will get that updated.

Call Committee:

Pastor's Report: Pastor shared we should line up cottage meetings. Cindy suggested we get the feedback at the congregational meeting and use the info for the cottage meetings. August 24th will only be a 9 a.m. service with the meeting to follow. The mailing for the confirmation students went out. Confirmation will begin September 7th. Christy shared that we will know the first day of Worship Wednesday after the August 13th. Pastor's granddaughter gets married December 20th. She has reached out to synod for a Pastor that day. Christy mentioned we may have the children's Christmas service that Sunday which they will discuss on Wednesday's youth meeting.

New Business:

Maureen brought up ratifying the emailed motion by Cindy Gosse and seconded by Sara Borland to approve the bid from Hawkeye Alarm & Signal Company in the amount of \$3,078.00 plus tax to replace the fire alarm system for the elevator. Ayes: Mike Waring, Cindy Gosse, Sara Borland, Shirley Bergman, Mary Adams & Maureen Even. Motion Carried. Motion carried.

Plans for renewal and feasibility will be after the congregational meeting.

The chairlift was installed temporarily while the elevator is out of commission.

Mike shared the Independence Lions is taking on Soles for Souls collection. He asked that ALC be a collection site for the shoes, all kinds of shoes. Cindy motion to approve. Second by Christy. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Maureen emailed Ruth Frush about dates for a joint Council meeting with Zion Lutheran. The dates do not work for them. Zion would like the meeting to be only the President and Vice President of each Council. Cindy suggested it be a full joint meeting to discuss the yoke agreement and future activities like Advent which begins November 30th. Amber also agreed that it should be a joint meeting to discuss the upcoming season. Maureen will suggest Thursday, August 28 or Wednesday, September 3 for a meeting and share a suggested agenda.

Discussion was had around chapter 1 of "Discovering Hope: Building Vitality in Rural Congregations" by David Poling-Goldenne and L. Shannon Jung. Ideas were brainstormed on ideas of how we can give back to our community. Pastor suggested a Purple Pantry at the church with canned goods, toiletries. Donations could be collected for Jay's Closet at the school. Cindy will contact Mrs. Hansen to find out the needs of Jay's Closet. Pastor suggested a Mission Moments once a month during Sunday service to hear from members doing missions or working in the community to share their stories. Mary will call Crystal Lysne and Pastor will talk to Missy Weber about sharing their work. Mary suggested we put up a collection for a mitten tree early in November for those in need.

Pastor mentioned Kaye Jones is going to lead a prayer group this fall. Pastor will lead a study on Paul.

Correspondence: No correspondence.

Deacon assignments for September: September 7: Christy; September 14: Mike; September 21: Maureen; September 28: Amber

Lord's Prayer was said.

Mike Waring motioned to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. Second by Cindy Gosse. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amber Reuter

Secretary