

American Lutheran Church
February Council Meeting
February 14, 2022

Maureen Even called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. both in person and electronically on Zoom. Those present were Pastor Kristen Corr Rod, Maureen Even, Shirley Bergman, and Sue Hoey. Joining on Zoom were Loren Corkery, Mitchell Hayek, and Sheila Collins. Absent were Christa Leach and Beth Stanek.

Maureen led devotions from Isaiah 9: 2-7, a reading from *Portals of Prayer*, and concluded with prayer.

Election of Officers - Shirley Bergman nominated Sue Hoey for President. Sue declined. Shirley Bergman nominated Beth Stanek for President. Second by Sheila Collins. Motion carried, pending agreement by Beth who was absent. Sheila Collins nominated Sue Hoey for Vice President. Second by Shirley Bergman. Motion carried. Mitchell Hayek suggested that Maureen Even be chair pro tem for this meeting only. Former President Maureen Even agreed to chair the current meeting.

Treasurer's Report – The checking account balance at the end of January was \$21,353.63. After consideration of some large expenditures in February, Sue Hoey made a motion to transfer \$5,000.00 to the General Savings and Emergency Fund this month. Second by Shirley Bergman. Motion carried. Mitchell Hayek made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report with one correction. Second by Sheila Collins. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report – Shirley Bergman made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2022 council meeting as written. Second by Mitchell Hayek. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Abundant Life – No report.

Hospitality – No report.

Memorial – No report.

Parish Ed – No report.

Presidents – Don Huck is the new President of the Jubilee Council. The Jubilee council confirms the worship time rotation of our congregations has been approved on a four month basis. ALC will change to 10:00 a.m. worship time beginning in April. A LAMP article will be posted noting this change.

Property – Shirley Bergman created a church building history and maintenance document. She asked for and received permission from council to have building needs, repairs, and associated costs assessed for prioritization of future expenditures. Shirley will contact the Technology Committee concerning a better placement of the TV screen in the Fireside room for use at council and other meetings.

Scholarship – No report.

Technology – Plans need approval from the Property Committee to run a cable from the sacristy to the balcony for the new sound system. Camera options are being tested.

Worship and Music – Hymns have been chosen through Easter and a shared Lenten service schedule with Jubilee has been set. Plans continue for a fun, uplifting Wednesday p.m. worship service with fellowship. Start date will be after Easter. Inviting a friend will be a key component.

Youth – A “lock-in” is planned for the end of February. Plans are still being finalized for a mission trip to Milwaukee June 6-9.

Pastor’s report – In the last month: 1 communion visit (Jubilee)

I attended a meeting of the pastors of the Jubilee (Waterloo area) Conference, a Synod Council meeting, and a Food Pantry Board meeting.

We canceled the Ministerial’s Service of Prayer for Christian Unity because ALC was supposed to host but I was home with Covid. This was disappointing because I have really enjoyed these services in the past, but it was a necessary thing to do this year.

I have been spending lots of time preparing a sermon series for Lent, and my idea has expanded beyond the Wednesdays in Lent into a sermon series for the Wednesdays and Sundays in Lent, titled, “When There is Nothing Left, God is There.” It will explore Bible stories where people feel exhausted, depleted, and abandoned, and yet God shows up.

The Worship Committees of Jubilee and ALC are planning joint Lenten services for Wednesday evenings this year. The schedule is as follows, with all services at 7pm:

Ash Wed, March 2– Jubilee

Wed, March 9– ALC

Wed, March 16– Jubilee

Wed, March 23– ALC

Wed, March 30– Jubilee

Wed, April 6– ALC

Holy Week services will also be at 7 pm and will be held jointly with ALC, Jubilee, FPC, and UMC in Jesup.

Maundy Thursday, April 14– ALC

Good Friday, April 15– UMC

I am also working with the joint youth group to plan a service trip to Milwaukee this summer in June.

The Ministerial pastors will be meeting at the end of February to begin planning for VBS and the Summer Food Program.

Camp Sunday will be March 27. Rev. Frank Johnson, the new Executive Director at Camp EWALU, will be coming to preach that day, so I’m hoping to have the folks who went to camp last summer also participate in the worship service in some way.

New Business

Shirley Bergman made a motion to split the Lenten services offerings equally between EWALU and LSI. Lenten services will alternate locations between ALC and Jubilee as stated in Pastor’s report. Envelope donations will go to the designated church. Maureen will find out from Jubilee council how the cash donations will be handled.

Mitchell Hayek made a motion to appoint Merritt Jones as head usher, Shirley Bergman as head organist, and Mike Waring as financial secretary. Second by Sheila Collins. Motion carried. Maureen Even will call prospective members for the Audit committee.

Council representatives were assigned to committees. The committee chairpersons are responsible for reports to council and year-end reports for the annual congregational meeting. The Nominating committee policy has been revised. Technology, Scholarship, and Custodial committee policies were discussed.

Old Business

Shirley Bergman will update the 2017 directory in google drive. The church secretary will make access available upon request. Hard copies will also be available.

Maureen Even sent the new Pastor sharing contract to the NEIA Synod for signing.

Pastor Kristen will check into sending mission support intent to the Synod.

Pastor Kristen will put an article in the LAMP for Synod Assembly attendees. The dates are June 10 and 11 in Waverly.

Correspondence – None.

Mitchell Hayek made a motion to adjourn. Second by Shirley Bergman. Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Collins,
Secretary