

American Lutheran Church  
January Council Meeting  
January 10, 2022

President Maureen Even called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Present were Maureen Even, Shirley Bergman, Sue Hoey, and Mike Waring. Joining electronically on Zoom were Pastor Kristen Corr Rod, Beth Stanek, Loren Corkery, Christa Leach, and Sheila Collins.

Maureen led devotions from Isaiah 43: 1-7, a reading from Christ in Our Home, and concluded with a prayer.

Treasurer's Report – The checking account balance at the end of December was \$20,070.23. Mike Waring made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Second by Sheila Collins. Motion carried. Mike will call JDR Snow Removal and Lawn Care to verify December billing.

Secretary's Report – Sue Hoey made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2021 Budget Hearing and the December 12, 2021 council meeting with one correction. Second by Christa Leach. Motion carried. The dates of the annual congregational meeting have been changed since the December council meeting. The annual meeting will be January 23 with a snow date of January 30.

**Committee Reports** – Note: Full committee reports are available in a binder outside the secretary's office.

Abundant Life – No report.

Hospitality – No report.

Memorial – No report.

Parish Ed – No report.

Presidents – No concerns.

Property - A temperature sensor was moved to the kitchen from the southwest corner entryway. The sensor was triggered because of the extreme cold.

Scholarship – The committee would like a list of possible candidates.

Technology – The committee hopes to do a trial run of the new sound equipment in the balcony by the first part of February.

Worship and Music – The committee discussed new ideas to foster excitement and participation in worship and in ALC.

Youth – Ice Skating is planned for January 23. Preparations are being made for a “lock-in” in February and for the Summer of Service trip to Milwaukee. Beth Stanek and daughter Piper will be attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. Anyone is welcome to join them.

Pastor's Report In the last month:

Funeral for LaVonne Palmer (Jubilee) on 12/14/2021

Funeral for Betty Loeb (Jubilee) on 12/16/2021

Funeral for Ron Reil (ALC) on 12/31/2021

Baptism for Raelynn Mae Gilliam (Jubilee) on 1/9/2022

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with decorating, planning, etc. the Christmas services and Christmas program!

The Jesup Ministerial held a Blue Christmas service on Dec. 21 at First Presbyterian Church. This service had small in-person attendance, but many people participated online, and it was meaningful for all involved.

I will be attending a lot of meetings in the next few weeks. Jan. 10-12 I will be at a retreat in Des Moines for the Moses Project (the continuing education cohort I am a part of for the 2021-2022 school year), Jan. 13 I have a meeting of the Lutheran pastors in the Jubilee conference, Jan. 15 I have a synod council meeting, Jan. 16 will be the annual meeting at Jubilee, Jan. 18 I have a Jesup ministerial meeting, Jan. 19 I have a Food Pantry Board meeting, and Jan. 23 will be the annual meeting at ALC.

The Jesup Ministerial Association is planning a Service of Prayer for Christian Unity that will be held on Sunday, Jan. 30, 4:30pm, here at ALC. We will work more on planning that service at our next meeting.

Pastor Kristen has been notified of possible Jury duty in February.

### **New Business**

Progress has been made on filling vacancies on some committees.

Jessica Saunders, church secretary, has developed a questionnaire for updating members contact information for the church directory.

Mike Waring made a motion to approve the Memorial committee policy. Second by Shirley Bergman. Motion carried. Mike Waring made a motion to approve the Property committee policy. Second by Sheila Collins. Motion carried. Policies still under further review include the Custodial and the Nominating committee policies.

Following NEIA Synod guidelines a Pastor/Congregation review was conducted by the executive council October 31, 2021. Defined areas of growth including organization and communication have seen progress. Leadership growth among the congregation members may benefit from professional help with congregational coaching. Pastor Kristen will get more information on this.

Discussion was held on what to do with funds in our checking account that exceed an approximate working balance of \$10,000. A General Savings Account was established at the last council meeting. Ideas for the eventual use of these funds include new windows in the fireside room, possible church roof repair or replacement, an emergency fund. Council will ask for additional suggestions at the annual meeting. The amount contributed to this fund will be decided monthly by Council based on current expenses. The Improvement Fund will remain for designated offerings.

**Old Business**

To be agreeable with ZLC we will only be able to budget a Step 12 increase of Pastor's package at the minimum (less than 3%) increase to her salary. To avoid tax issues with a monetary bonus, we would like to offer Pastor Kristen an extra week of vacation as a bonus instead. Maureen Even will ask Jubilee council if they would agree to this. Based on their decision, we will adjust the proposed budget for supply Pastor accordingly. Mike Waring made a motion to present the budget discussed at the Budget Hearing to the congregation at the annual meeting with Pastor's package at Step 12 and a possible slight increase to the amount budgeted for supply Pastor. Second by Beth Stanek. With one opposed, motion carried.

Correspondence – Banklowa sent a box of candy as a thank-you.

Mike Waring made a motion to adjourn. Second by Shirley Bergman. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.