

American Lutheran Church

October Council Meeting

October 12, 2020

President Maureen Even called the meeting to order electronically on Zoom at 6:28 p.m. Present on Zoom were Maureen Even, Pastor Kristen Corr Rod, Sara Borland, Christa Leach, Kaye Jones, Mike Waring, Loren Corkery, and Sheila Collins. Absent was Dan Kopplin.

Pastor Kristen led devotions from Women of the ELCA website and concluded with a prayer.

Secretary's Report – A motion was made by Sara Borland to accept the minutes of the September 14, 2020 council meeting as written. Second by Kaye Jones. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – The check book balance at the end of September is \$13,978.86. A motion was made by Sara Borland to accept the Treasurer's Report. Second by Sheila Collins. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Memorial – A memorial pamphlet has been sent to Marilyn Schulz's daughter.

Abundant Life – No report.

Hospitality – Cupcakes were provided to the recent confirmands.

Parish Ed – Pastor Kristen is continuing to post Sunday School lessons on-line.

Property – The switches for the dampers are on back order.

Scholarship – Loren Corkery will send a check in the amount of \$600.00 to Wartburg College for the EPIC scholarships designated to Alyssa and Kristen Hoey.

Technology – No report.

Worship and Music – See Pastor's report.

Youth – No report.

Pastor's Report –

I participated in a couple of Zoom meetings with the new Interim Bishop, Bp. Andrea DeGroot-Nesdahl. She is really wonderful. She is going to provide a sermon on video for churches to use on All Saints Day so she can introduce herself to everyone in the synod, not just the pastors. The Synod staff will also be providing sermons on video for Advent.

I am grateful for the Reopening Team's hard work in thinking through what all precautions we should be taking in order to more safely hold in-person worship. I am also grateful that we were able to talk through some metrics that can help us determine whether our county/area is

starting to become a hot spot. It seems like such things go county-by-county, so we will continue to closely watch the numbers in our area. People seem to be doing a good job following the rules.

Shirley and I have been trying to think about what we can do with music for our worship services during the Advent & Christmas seasons, since singing is not safe right now. We welcome ideas.

Fall Theological Conference is taking place over Zoom on Oct 26 and 27 for all the pastors in the NE Iowa Synod. I will try to participate when I am able.

New Business

Pastor Kristen will be on vacation November 23-29, 2020 and from December 27, 2020 to January 2, 2021. We could use a recorded video sermon from the NEIA Synod staff for Sunday, November 29. Interim Bishop Andrea Degroot-Nesdahl is making a video sermon available for December 27. Another option is to contact Tyler Hoey to see if he is available for either Sunday.

On September 28, 2020 an email motion was made by Sheila Collins to accept and approve the Reopening Committee's recommendations and guidelines to having in-person worship. Kaye seconded the motion by email. Responding "aye" by email were: Mike Waring, Sara Borland, Christa Leach, Kaye Jones, and Sheila Collins. Motion carried. Christa Leach made a motion to ratify the above electronic motion. Second by Mike Waring. Motion ratified.

Loren Corkery will confirm with Portico Benefit Services, the continuation of the current coverage of Pastor Kristen's health insurance plan before the deadline of October 30, 2020. The cost sharing amounts will be determined under the new plan.

Council confirms it is acceptable for small groups to use the church facilities as long as the protocols for masking, social distancing, and sanitization are followed. If it is determined that in-person services need to be cancelled for a week then all facility use is cancelled for the same period.

Zion Lutheran Jubilee has inquired about our interest in sharing a Pastor. Maureen will attempt to contact Pastor Steve Brackett of the ELCA Synod and possibly set up a meeting with him, Pastor Kristen, and the president and vice president of both councils.

Old Business

Annual reviews are included in the 2021 compensation packet. We will look more closely at these reviews next month.

Dan Kopplin has reported his regret that he is unable to serve on council at this time due to work and family obligations. Maureen Even will attempt to find a volunteer to fill his seat for November, December, and January.

Correspondence

Thank-you emails for returning to in-person worship were received from Doris Lebahn and Mary Adams.

Kaye Jones made a motion to adjourn. Second by Christa Leach. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m. (This motion and all motions made electronically will be ratified when we are able to meet again in person).

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Collins,

Secretary

At the November 9, 2020 council meeting, Sara Borland made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 12, 2020 council meeting as written. Second by Mike Waring. Motion carried.