

May 12, 2025 Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m. by President Maureen Even.

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

Pastor led a devotion from "A Guide to Prayer for All God's People" followed by prayer.

Addition to the meeting agenda: Pentecost banners, ecumenical meeting notes, Synod Assembly Offering, and Pastor's contract. Sara Borland motioned to approve the addition of these agenda items. Second by Cindy Gosse. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Cindy Gosse shared the financial reports. Mike Waring mentioned that giving was down at this past Sunday's service. Cindy said the IRS now wants federal withholdings sent monthly instead of the quarterly. Cindy completed the necessary forms to accommodate this change and submitted the withholdings for the month of April. Mary Adams motioned to approve the financial reports. Second by Christy Phillips. Motion carried.

Secretary Report:

Amber shared the April minutes were sent to council for review. Cindy Gosse motioned to approve the April Council Meeting minutes. Second by Sara Borland. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality Reports:

Mother's Day and Confirmation Sunday went well. Mom's loved the little tea and chocolate takeaways Maureen put together. Graduation is this Sunday and graduates received their invitation to service. Father's Day is the next holiday that Maureen is working on little gifts for.

Parish Ed/Youth:

Community VBS will be August 3–7 from 6-8 p.m. at the city park. Pastor Pat is doing the lesson for VBS on Monday, August 4. Pastor needs a male volunteer to be a Roman soldier. Mike will check his schedule. We are looking for an additional Sunday School teacher to volunteer.

Property/Technology:

Shirley Bergman sent an email concerning the piano in the music room. Randy Frush is donating a new piano to the church that was his sisters, Kathy Frush. Randy said he will move the old piano out when he brings in the new piano. The new piano will be put in the TV room away from exterior walls. Motion by Sara Borland to accept the gift of the piano and have Randy move the old piano out. Second by Mike Waring. Motion carried.

Pastor mentioned the dishwasher at the parsonage was repaired, but now it's not pushed back far enough and there are drawers that can't be opened. We received a bill from Cy & Charley's for a service call and labor. Cindy Gosse will call to clarify what is under warranty on the dishwasher, and let them know that the dishwasher needs to be put into place as it was before.

Maureen Even tried opening the east handicap door and it opens from the inside, but it doesn't open with the outside button. There may be a short. Mike Waring is going to call to have someone come and look at it.

Scholarship:

Pat Winblade asked why council did not approve the \$1,200 that the Scholarship Committee recommended. Maureen Even looked into the history of past scholarships, and found that the Church has always matched the amount of what the college would match. Maureen contacted Sue Hoey and Sheila Collins. Sue said the college matches have changed since the initial budgeted line item. Sheila said the \$1,200 was a cap when the max that any one college would match was \$600. Sue agreed that the budgeted line item was \$1,200 so that two students could use it when the max college match use to be \$600. Maureen looked at the Lamp to see how we advertised it, and it was advertised as a \$600 scholarship. Council approved \$750 as that is what Wartburg will currently match, and we only had one applicant. We will look at what the college matches are for the next school year and look at raising the budgeted line item to \$2,000 in January, as well as create clear guidelines for the scholarship committee. Maureen will let Pat know the decision remains.

Worship and Music:

Sara Borland updated Council that we are on track for the new Contemporary Praise Worship starting June 1. Run through on Wednesday, May 28th. The vinyl banner will go up on Monday, May 26th. Amber Reuter is donating the cost of the printing of the post cards. Maureen Even will get the labels and the post card stamps this week.

Call Committee:

Maureen Even gave the update that the pastor who was interviewed in April has declined moving forward.

The Ecumenical Ministry shared ALC will be collecting instant oatmeal and canned food for this summer's meal donations. Wednesday, July 9th is ALC's day to pack meals at the Presbyterian Church. A \$1,100 check was given to the Ecumenical Ministry by ALC from the noisy offerings that were collected during Lent. Pastor shared that this donation will allow VBS to be free for all the children.

Sunday, June 8th will joint outdoor worship 8:30 a.m. at Jubilee, with a joint council meeting to follow.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor shared her activities from the past month. Motion by Sara Borland to approve Pastor's vacation from May 22nd–May 26th. Second by Mike Waring. Motion carried.

Arnita, from Jubilee, is scheduling the fill-in pastor for Sunday, May 25th.

New Business: Synod Assembly Offering as two ministry options for this year. The Dwelling in Faith in Mitchell, IA or The Dwelling in North Carolina. Sara mentioned the Youth heard from a

speaker from The Dwelling in North Carolina at National Youth Gathering last summer. Sara Borland motioned that the \$250 offering from ALC for Synod Assembly Offering be to The Dwelling in North Carolina. Second by Mike Waring. Motion carried. Cindy Gosse will send the check for the Synod Assembly Offering directly to the Synod.

Ratify the approval of Chris Waring the fellowship hall on June 14 from 8:30-1 Motion by Sara Borland to ratify this request. Second by Mary Adams. Motion carried. Mike Waring abstained from voting.

Ratify the approval of having Evan Sebetka mow the church at \$25 and parsonage at \$35. Motion by Mike Waring Seconded by Shirley Bergman. Motion carried.

Maureen Even will work with Ruth to have an agenda for joint council meeting. Maureen will ask Chris to put it in the bulletin.

Keaton Lysne is going to preach on June 15th for Father's Day. Pastor will help him with structure of sermon. He will preach at both services.

Cindy Gosse has the laptop that was purchased for finance that she does not use. Pastor's computer does not work for more than 10 minutes without being plugged in. Pastor is going to take the finance laptop. We can use that laptop for praise and worship as well.

Pentecost banners design were sent by Chris. Cindy Gosse motioned to move ahead with the cheaper quote. Second by Mary Adams. Motion carried to order Pentecost banners.

Old Business:

Pastor's contract needs to be renewed. Cindy Gosse suggested that the president and vice-president of ALC and Jubilee congregations should meet to discuss. Pastor had previously shared an idea with Cindy to keep the pay the same in the new contract, with the addition of including a membership to Buchanan County Health Center. Job expectations from each congregation for Pastor needs to be clearly stated. Maureen will schedule that meeting.

Correspondence:

Thank you card from EWALU.

Deacon Assignments for June:

Pastor suggested we do intinction for June, July and August.

June 1: Mary Adams; June 8: Service is at Jubilee; June 15: Maureen Even; June 22: Christy Phillips; June 29: Maureen Even

Lord's Prayer was said.

Motion to adjourn at 7:40 by Amber Reuter. Second by Cindy Gosse. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Reuter
Secretary