All Saints Lutheran Church

421 SW 19th Street

Blue Springs, MO 64015

Congregational Meeting May 4, 2025 11:00 am - 11:36 pm

Betsy Reese Heather Antes

Pastor Sarah Pierce Sara Meyers (absent)

Flavia Via Carla Girkin

Paul Blixrud Janet Cooper

Katie Dustin

Council President Betsy called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

Guests: 14 members and friends.

Pastor Sarah began the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of the November 17, 2024 congregational meeting:

Donna Taylor made a motion to approve the November 17, 2024 meeting minutes and Tracy Nelson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Election of Church Council:

Paul agreed to serve another term on the Council and Katie agreed to a one year term in an advisory position. Betsy asked if anyone was willing to fill the vacated position due to Sara Meyers term limit. Hearing no one respond, Betsy asked everyone to prayerfully consider the open position and to reach out to any Council member if interested. Rebecca asked how much time was involved and Betsy said typically one meeting per month; and the new member would not necessarily be a liaison for the same committees as Sara was. After discussion Tracy made a motion to nominate Paul and Katie each to their respective terms and Donna seconded the motion. The motion carried and they were elected. The Council will continue to search for new member to be addressed in a future meeting. The Council may need to review the Church’s constitution to be sure to follow the requirements. Betsy asked the audience to review the reports as presented by the different committees and said all Council meetings are open.

Coffee with Council:

May 11th Service: Betsy said the youth will be leading the service on May 11th and Lisa Melton said Katie will be serve as assisting pastor.

Synod Assembly June 5-7: Pastor Sarah, David Fast and Lisa Melton will be going the Synod Assembly, in part to elect a new Bishop.

KC Pride Parade June 7th, 11:00 am: Betsy said the Synod Assembly is the same day as the Pride Parade and also that she would be out of the country and not be able to attend. Pastor Sarah said to have a booth and to participate in the parade would require pre-registration, but watching the parade does not require pre-registration.

Vanco Simply Giving: Betsy said Jean and others have been having difficulty communicating with Vanco and may consider another service. This was discussed in Council and Katie will do some research for another company. Carla said the monthly fees have been going up an additional $24.00 per month due to not having call backs and questions answered. It appears we are under a contract and are being charged because the new contract has not been finished. Kent Deubner suggested looking at “Givelify” which he was familiar with. He said the service is free but charges 2-3% on each transaction. If we continue to use Vanco, it is possible that each member who uses Vanco may need to have their information registered anew. David Fast said he would help with filling out the new applications if needed.

AED: Katie had earlier did some research on available grants for AED’s. Pastor Sarah had Jean apply for a grant from another provider last week as the first provider never responded to our application. Pastor used Katie’s original email to initiate a new application and we have already received a response by email.

The movie “Hot Times in the Heartland”: Following last week’s movie, Betsy asked what the congregation might like to do next. Janet provided a handout titled “Creation Care Action Items (Lutheran Restoring Creation Website)”. Items discussed included the following:

* Types of light bulbs the Church uses.
* Planting native prairie grass in the yard; Janet noted a church in Topeka did this and she will review their progress. She heard it does not look well for 4-5 years.
* Planting more trees and/or other native plants.
* Bringing your pets to church for a blessing; perhaps on October 4th to correspond with the Catholic “Blessing of the Animals on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi”.

Betsy asked everyone to ponder these items and we will discuss again at the next Coffee with Council meeting.

Tracy made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Donna seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 11:36 am.

Respectively submitted,

Paul Blixrud, Church member secretary