Nativity Lutheran Church Council Meeting

September 20, 2017

Present: Interim Pastor Paul Lutze, David Johnson, Kelly Rogers, Jim New, Audra Bryson, Ernadel Sioson

Absent: Earl Osborne – excused

We began our meeting in Pastor Lutze’s Office at 7:00 PM with Pastor leading us in devotion and prayer.

Special Orders

We reviewed our Synod’s Pastoral Compensation Guidelines and discussed the recent formation of our Call Committee. Carole Rajan is serving as the chairperson and Chad Smith will be leading the group’s communication efforts. We may ask this committee for reports as needed in the coming months.

It was noted that Kelly and Earl had not received copies of “Governance is Governance.” Copies can be distributed to them via email.

Minutes from the Council meeting on August 9th, 2017 were reviewed and approved.

Financial Report

Jim reviewed our financial report for the month of August. Our total income was $32,328 and our total expenses were $24,903, leaving us with a profit of $7,425 for the month. Two major upcoming expenses (payments for the removal of our portable classroom space and the fence around our dumpster area) were discussed.

President’s Report

David shared an update regarding the recent discussion he and Jim have had with representatives from the ELCA’s Mission Investment Fund. We are currently eligible to receive a promissory note of $50,000, as well as an additional loan up to $170,000 (we must complete a detailed strategic plan including our abilities to pay back the loan for this step). We also discussed our decision to respond to the City of Palm Beach Gardens regarding their offer to purchase our property. This is an offer we have chosen not to accept at this time. Our response letter, as well as information about the Mission Investment Fund loans, will be shared with the congregation at our special meeting on October 1st.

Pastor’s Report

There was no written report from Pastor Lutze this month.

Office Report

We reviewed the written report and the attendance report from our office manager Kari Donnelly. Her report provided updates on her communication with contractors completing our portable and fencing projects, and also gave thanks to the individuals who helped with our hurricane shutters earlier this month.

Old Business

Kelly provided an update on our new website. Traffic has been steady and we are receiving positive feedback on the changes. We discussed the use of Paypal for nonprofits and the use of Facebook and other social media pages for our church.

Pastor Lutze provided an update on our Code Violations from the City of Palm Beach Gardens. An officer recently stopped by and provided notice on additional violations we still need to complete, including: the finalization of portable removal and dumpster fencing, exterior surface updates (cleaning and paint with no noticeable discoloration), and parking lot repair. He and Pia are planning on attending the compliance extension hearing on September 24th.

Pastor is also continuing to work with Gardens Presbyterian to schedule and plan upcoming joint youth events.

New Business

It was noted that our church could benefit from a part time handyperson who could be on call for several hours each week. Discussion on this item will be deferred until a later meeting.

We declined to participate in the Novus Way “Mission Possible” campaign.

Our meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Audra Bryson

Secretary