

Immanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes March 19, 2024

Council Members present: Pastor Jamie Brieske, Sandra LaValley, Bill Schwengel, Sue Waits, Dave Schaffer, Karen Larson, Shaylyn Gagnon, Janet Carlson, Christopher Dean

Absent: Ryan Stilp, Marcia Bowman

Guests: N/A

Meeting called to order by Dave Schaffer at 7:01pm

Gathering and Devotion

Jan read a devotion and prayer from the book *Yes, and... Daily Meditations* by Richard Rohr.

Thank you notes

N/A

Minutes

Approved via email.

Going forward, Karen will alert office when there is a quorum for approval.

New Business

- Mission Overview & Covenant by Pastor Jamie
 - Covenant
 - Everyone agreed to abide by the covenant as it is written.
 - Mission overview
 - Pastor Jamie went through the presentation *Immanuel Lutheran Church – A Church without Walls*
 - Interesting to note that religious affiliation has gone down in Eau Claire County and in the US. Immanuel's attendance has remained steady overall.
 - Dave noted that people who stopped being involved in church because of the pandemic might now be open to rejoining.
 - How do we encourage members of the congregation to bring their ideas forward and take the liberty to lead those initiatives?
- Dave would like us to bring online decisions to the meetings for final approval (i.e. email discussions regarding new positions, etc.).

Old Business

- Q12 Congregation Survey & Discussion of wording questions
 - Dave gave everyone handouts of Gallup Poll questions and also sample questions from the Vanco Faith Website.
 - Dave asked the group to read through the questions and come to the next meeting prepared to discuss.
 - Chris suggested also asking questions about how people feel they are engaged with the church.
 - Chris would like to work with Ryan to see if there are other faith communities in the area that have used a Q-12 type survey to see if there is any information we could use.
 - We need to persuade the congregation that their input matters.
 - Pastor Jamie said we can do a larger survey, but to keep in mind that we can also do smaller, more focused, surveys along the way.
 - Jan suggested that we use the survey as a way to connect with those who are unable to attend.
- Dee Schlieve as Communications Admin
 - Sue motioned to accept Dee for the position of Communications Admin, Jan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the group.
- Committee Sign-ups, Staff Connections (Need council reps on: Trust Fund, Property, & Preschool)
 - The list was updated to include connections with new council members.

- There are no guidelines for discussion with the staff; council members should meet at least quarterly with their staff member(s), but more often for positions where there is more responsibility or time commitment.
- Youth Reps on Council
 - Sue suggested rather than having specific reps, we could have a few meetings a year where youth were encouraged to come and give feedback. Chris also suggested an open-seat approach to having youth participate.
 - The group will continue to look for ways to include the youth of the congregation in council discussions.

Reports – Review prior to meeting

- Pastor (in drive) – looking for feedback and input on Pastor Jamie’s participation in round-robin preaching during Lent. Shalyn suggested that others step up to help Alyssa with Faith Formation if Pastor is gone.
- Property (Bill) – Bill plans to stay on the Property Committee after his council term is up next year, but he suggested that the Council should still have a member on the committee.
- Cemetery (Bill) – Mark Olson will be replacing Bill on the Cemetery Committee. 4/21/24 is the next cemetery clean-up day.
- Finance (Dave) – Dave reviewed the finance documents with the group. Expenses are up and revenue is down this month. We are behind budget \$7,050.59 for the month of March.
- Green Team (Sue) – Scrap metal collection 4/22 through 4/28.
- Trust Fund (Ryan) – no new report.
- Faith Formation – no new report.
- Preschool (Shalyn) – no new report.
- ZIP – no new report.

Sue moved to accept reports, Bill seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Closing Prayer led by Pastor Jamie

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Sandy, second by Sue, meeting adjourned.

Offering Counters 2024

January:	Lang	May:	Marcia	September:	Jan
February:	Dave	June:	Karen	October:	Karen
March:	Karen	July:	(no meeting)	November:	Sue
April:	Sandy	August:		December:	Bill

Devotions 2024

January:	Bill	May:	Marcia	September:	
February:	Dave	June:	Sandy	October:	Karen
March:	Jan	July:	(no meeting)	November:	Sue
April:	Chris	August:		December:	

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 16th, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Karen Larson