

Immanuel Lutheran Church Council Agenda September 15, 2020

Council Members: Emilie Anderson, Karen Betzig-Lundberg, Sandra LaValley, Pastor Jamie Brieske, Calvin Dean, Jennifer Dean, Natalie Forrest, Becky Ivey, Lang Jacobson, Al Ludwig, Keith Martin, Bill Schwengel, Bob Wilcox.

Gathering

Devotion- Jennifer shared her faith journey from childhood and high school through college and adulthood as she and her family found their way to Immanuel Lutheran. One message shared was how welcoming Immanuel is as a church family.

Minutes

August - 2020 - The minutes for August were approved by email; Council will review September's minutes by email as well.

Reports

Pastor - This report can be found online in the shared folder. There is an upcoming service day, "God's Work, Our Hands", with various options between outdoor service work to the collection of needed items and a special speaker to be shared via Immanuel's YouTube channel. September is a busy month with the start of the school year for Create-A-World, virtual Sunday School, and hybrid Confirmation and SHYN. The food pantry days/hours have been changed to Monday evenings to allow for reducing the cross-traffic in the church building and the need for volunteers. Kwik Trip may be donating a number of items to the food pantry. Boxes of food are still available on Thursdays and Fridays with a call ahead to the church office and the pre-packaged box of items. We can determine how well these changes are working and if there are any other changes the food pantry clients may need by connecting with Dee in the weeks to come.

Property - The contract has been submitted for the sanctuary work. Bill will continue to check in with Metzenbauer regarding the start date, but there is a tentative date of November 16th to begin the project. Lawn care has been manageable with the slow-growing grass this year. The committee will be looking ahead to removal of leaves and clearing the roof drains as a future project.

Finance - Reports can be found in the shared folder.

Karen moved to approve the Pastor, Property, and Finance reports. Keith seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Blood Drive - Lang shared that Immanuel has been approached by the Red Cross to consider options for potential participation in a blood drive. The Red Cross outlined two options they use when working with community organizations. Option A - Immanuel would have an active role in recruiting donors and sponsor the blood drive. In this option, the church body is the main donor with some possible community involvement. Option B - The Red Cross does the promoting and the church's involvement is only in providing the building in which to hold the drive. Important factors were discussed such as cleaning pre- and post-event, volunteers needed, number of hours for the event, number of people in the building, a potential date in which other programs would not be running concurrently, etc. Lang will follow up with the Red Cross for further information before the Council or any Immanuel committee would move forward with a blood drive.

Old Business

Worship - Karen shared with Council information in support of designating a planning team or committee to oversee the use of Immanuel's building for any/all activities, including worship. A planning committee/team has met to plan outdoor worship previously, but as the building use has increased with school and other potential gatherings, a need seems to be present for a cohesive team or committee to oversee and manage this in-building use. A more comprehensive approach in the oversight of activities and property usage at Immanuel is recommended. A few roles of this team would include providing a process for looking across everything going on in Immanuel, getting expert consultation, advising the council, keeping the council up to date and getting council input. This comprehensive approach to building use and procedures may also be beneficial to church and community members who would like to know Immanuel's procedures and preparedness during this time. A few council members are interested in participating on this new committee. Input or participation by Immanuel staff may also be sought. Moving forward, in-building activities will not move forward until the committee has developed plans and procedures for such, including worship services. It is noted that small staff meetings are taking place at this time.

Outdoor Services: At the beginning of outdoor services there will be a positive message or approach to the wearing masks to be shared as there may be some confusion with mask wearing - required vs encouraged vs recommended. Masks will be offered and available to those in need of a mask at the start of the service.

Closing Prayer by Lang:

Adjournment - Becky moved to adjourn the meeting, Natalie seconded the motion, and the Council unanimously approved.