

## Church Council Minutes March 12, 2024

Present: Ashley Johnson, Lois Fenske, Pastor Ale Tulu, Evie Fox, Orrin Ausen, Joel Herder, Jared Miller, Deb Berndt, Connie Jensen

Absent: none

Council President Orrin called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. Pastor offered a devotion.

### A. Consent Agenda

- 1) Motion: Evie made the motion to accept the February 2024 Council Minutes and Financial Report as written with noted corrections.

Second: Jared seconded the motion.

Discussion: The following corrections were noted: Gary and Evie Fox moved the float, not the Millers. The Debt Reduction Fundraiser Event is sponsored by the BLW, not BLC. The actual amount put toward the MIF principle was \$10,545.48, not \$9,445.48.

Action: carried

### 2) Council and Committee Reports

- a) Pastor: Two of our church members have been visited in the hospital. On March 7<sup>th</sup> Pastor, Rene and Orrin attended the Synodical Conference in Rothsay. The Synod Gathering will be held in May at Concordia College. The Round Robin guest speakers continue through the Lenten season; this has been well received. This Sunday, Shegitu Kebede from Fergus Falls will be our guest speaker. Information from the synod was shared regarding the financial support of congregations who have accepted student interns.

- b) President: Work continues updating the church constitution. Proposed changes will be shared with committees and voted on at the Annual Meeting. Orrin has contacted Spiritual Services at CHI-St Francis about the availability of residents viewing our services; work continues. Names were changed on the church checking account to allow the new President to sign checks. There is a Money Market account available at BMO where our deposits are that offers a 2% interest rate. It was agreed that the Finance/Stewardship Committee will be asked to investigate this and make recommendations. Connie agreed to contact that committee.

- c) Property: See submitted/attached report. A colored window in the main sanctuary needs repair and will be fixed. Discussion was held re: the removal of the wooden sign on the north side of the church as the posts are rotting.

Motion: Evie made the motion to remove the sign.

Second: Joel seconded the motion.

Discussion: nothing further

Action: carried

- d) Mission: A little over \$100 was raised for Someplace Safe for the February Mission. March and April Mission will be the R/W Food Pantry. Volunteer drivers are needed to support Boy Scout Troop 332 March 16<sup>th</sup> as they go door-to-door for donations. Groceries may be left in the overflow pews, monetary donations may be submitted in offering, online or at the church office.

- e) Youth Education: Attendance remains strong this time of year as opposed to last year, perhaps because of the milder winter. Fifth graders will prepare for Maundy Thursday First Communion the next two Sundays. Youth will sing Palm Sunday and breakfast will be served. Carmel rolls will be served Easter Sunday. Ham bingo will be held March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Wahpeton Community Center by Breckenridge Lutheran and Foxhome Lutheran as a fundraiser for the National Youth Gathering.

- f) Worship: meeting next month
- g) Finance: no further report
- h) Constitution/Bylaws: in process
- i) Mission Statement: Pastor, Orrin and Jared will meet.

### 3) Financial Report

Motion: Pastor Tulu made the motion to accept the financial report as written.

Second: Evie seconded the motion.

Discussion: There is a deficit of \$1,802.95 thus far this year.

Action: carried

### B. Additions to the Agenda

- 1) Motion: Deb made the motion to add discussion about the Installation of Council Executive Officers.

Second: Evie seconded the motion.

Discussion: This will wait until the new officers are elected at the next Annual Meeting.

Action: carried

### C. Old Business

- 1) BLW Debt Reduction Fundraiser: Several baskets are coming in and will be displayed starting March 17<sup>th</sup>; ticket sales will begin then as well.
- 2) Updated Wednesday Worship/Praise Band: It is hoped this will begin next fall. The Worship Committee is addressing this; Orrin will contact Kay Nelson for follow-up.
- 3) Inactive Member Project: Lists of those who did not respond to the membership inquiry last fall have been distributed to Council members to begin phone contacts.
- 4) Welcome Brochure: Under revision

### D. New Business

Joel stated that National Honor Society students may be available to supplement where there are gaps in the Faith Care and Share Meals On Wheels calendar. The school would need a two-week notice; Lois was given contact information at the high school which will be shared with FCS organizers.

### E. Church Pulse

Nothing further

Closing Prayer: Pastor Tulu led Council in the Lord's Prayer.

Adjournment: Council adjourned at 7:54pm. Next Council meeting will be 6:30 pm Tuesday, April 9, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,  
Connie Jensen  
Secretary