

**St. John's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2018**

Members Present: President Melissa Westrick, Vice President Kathi Bokano, Treasurer Kim Dennis, Secretary James Inman, Paul Meteyer, Chris Snooks, Joe Tinson Sr., Alison White, Stated Supply Pastor Roger Facione, Licensed Lay Minister (LLM) Enoch Carlton.

Members Absent: None

Guests: None

AGENDA ITEMS

Call to Order: 7:00PM

Opening Prayer: Pastor Roger Facione started the meeting with a prayer, Lorica of St. Patrick. LLM Enoch Carlton requested a special prayer regarding the recent school shooting.

Minutes from the February 20th, 2018 Church Council Meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Paul Meteyer to approve the minutes as presented. Kathi Bokano supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Primary Stated Supply Pastor Report (written and verbal discussion).

Visitations: Pastor Roger Facione presented his report. LLM Enoch Carlton conducted the member visitation during March; Pastor Roger will accompany Enoch on visitations during the month of April. During March, Pastor Roger made special visitation trips to see Russell Duset (three times) and Norb Hageman (five times).

Pastor Roger noted that Russell Duset lives all alone, needs frequent visits and it would be nice to have long-time members of the Congregation also visit Russell. Pastor Roger reported that Norb Hageman is making progress with his rehab from his hip surgery.

- **Member Care Committee:** Pastor Roger recommended that Church Council President Melissa Westrick and Vice President Kathi Bokano, and the two Co-Chairs of the Member Care Committee (Debb Carlton and Gayle LeClair) meet with Pastor Roger and LLM Enoch to plan goals and activities of the Member Care Committee. Kathi Bokano stated she has been in contact with Gayle LeClair. A meeting sometime after April 19th would be good. Gayle will have returned from Florida by then.

In the past four months 9 adults and 12 children from six different families have united with St. John's. New member orientation and shepherding is needed for these families.

There are a number of long time members of St. John's who have not been heard from or seen for some time. Member-to-member contact from the Member Care Committee may be beneficial for these members.

Pastor Roger acknowledged and thanked Debb Carlton for already contacting visitors and new and long term members. Charlene Barrett has photos of new members to set the new member board display.

- **Holy Week and Easter Services:** Pastor Roger thanked all those involved with the preparation of the upcoming Holy Week and Easter Services. Many are involved in many areas such as altar guild, ushers, choir, those who maintain the buildings and grounds, and volunteer readers for the Passion.

Dramatic readings are scheduled for Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday Services. Kathi and Roger Bokano will read "But Still He Walked" on Palm Sunday. Enoch Carlton and Paul Meteyer will read "Letting The Master Down" on Maundy Thursday.

The Maundy Thursday Service will be co-led with the Confirmation class. The Larsen family will help lead the Good Friday Tenebrae Service. On Easter Sunday Rich Miiller will be playing his trumpet.

- **Spring and Summer Book Studies**
The Thursday daytime Book Study session averages four people. The evening Book Study Session averages 12-14 people. The groups were given three study choices for the spring and three choices for the summer Book Study sessions. The selections were shared at Committee night. The selection for spring is "The Jesus I Never Knew" by Philip Yancy. The selection for summer is "12 Women of the Bible" by Lysa Terkeurst and guests.

The studies are DVD-based followed by group discussion. Pastor Roger is humbled and excited to be able to offer these studies to the Congregation and others in the community who have joined the sessions.

- **Confirmation Sunday, May 20th- Day of Pentecost**
Three youth- Colin Barrett, Cora Wright, and Jonathan Snooks- will be making their confirmation at the 10:15AM Service on May 20th. Last year the Church Council authorized robes, lapel flowers, confirmation stoles, crosses, and a special cake for coffee hour for the youth confirmed. Council's blessing is again sought for the three youth being confirmed this year.
- **Spring and Summer Ministry Schedule**
The Thursday evening services will resume the Thursday after Memorial Day and continue through the Thursday before Labor Day. At the March Committee Night meeting, the Worship and Music Committee decided to continue with the Thursday evening services. The format will be like last year: 7PM- informal praise and prayer time with Holy Communion, 7:30-8:30PM Bible Study. The liturgy and music will follow last year's format.

- **Finalized Ministry Coverage for Spring and Summer**

Pastor Roger and LLM Enoch Carlton finalized their schedule to cover the Worship Services in the spring and the summer. LLM Enoch will lead Worship Services on the following Sundays: April 15th, May 6th, June 10th, July 15th, August 26th, and September 23rd.

Pastor Roger will be on vacation from Wednesday August 22, 2018 through Wednesday August 29th, 2018. pastor Roger and his wife Betsy will be traveling up north where Pastor Roger will officiate at the wedding of his daughter-in-law's sister.

MCREST week is Sunday August 19th through August 26th, so Pastor Roger will be available for only Sunday, Monday and Tuesday of that week. LLM Enoch will lead the healing Service for MCREST, assisted by the Bishop (if available), or with the assistance of others in the community such as the Pastor of North Shore.

Pastor Roger provided the schedules for the Spring and Summer Bible Study, and the Spring and Summer ministry schedule as attachments to his report.

Verbal Report- Two-Year Plan, Ecumenical in the Community

Pastor Roger reported that he met with the local Youth for Christ group and announced that St. John's was building its Youth Group. The representatives from North Shore and Lighthouse said they will coordinate with LLM Enoch Carlton.

Pastor Roger will meet with the local Anchor Bay Ministerial Alliance. The host church provides a lunch and a tour of that church. Plans are to also reconnect with the Bluewater Cluster (ELCA churches located in Macomb, St. Clair, Sanilac counties) which meets monthly.

A tentative date of June 12, 2018 at 6PM was chosen to hold a meeting with all of St. John's Educational leaders. The meeting will be used to plan the next year, estimate the number of Sunday School children and discuss Sunday School activities. Pastor Roger suggested configuring the St. John's membership list to include the children in the families.

Joe Tinson Sr. made a motion, with support from Christine Snooks to accept Pastor Roger's report. Council agreed unanimously.

Licensed Lay Minister (LLM) Report from Enoch Carlton:

Minister Enoch presented his report. He was able to make seven visits to members in March. Three others are being scheduled, people were out of town or unable to set a time/date. The visitations go well. Everyone is grateful for the gifts from the educational committee, students, staff, and parents. Minister Enoch noted one family placed the photo from the Sunday School next to their family pictures. An indication of how they feel about their church family. He thanked all involved with the ideas and assembly of gifts.

- **Youth Ministry-** Minister Enoch presented a handout detailing information regarding the youth ministry program. Minister Enoch has made contact with a number and met some of the youth Pastors in the area from the information shared by Pastor Roger.
- **Youth For Christ-** On March 6th, Minister Enoch met with Pastor Randy from Northshore at the Southeast Michigan chapter of “Youth for Christ” Local Pastors, youth ministers and pastors meet with middle-school and high school students to share thoughts and feelings and spend time in the Word of God. It was good to meet with others from local churches such as Lighthouse Bible church, Northshore, The Rock, etc.
- **Educational Committee Meeting-** Minister Enoch met with the Educational Committee and discussed ideas to be discussed at the first Youth Ministry meeting (date and time TBD). Some ideas discussed were: helping in the community, how to keep youth involved with church during and after they confirmed, different worship times (perhaps after spaghetti dinners), worship ideas directed towards youth (music, praise), meetings in the parlor, Youth ministry involvement with Vacation Bible School.

At Committee night the Educational approved the following events and seek Church Council approval: White Water Rafting in West Virginia joining up with Pastor Evans and youth from Fellowship Lutheran. Possible dates July 23-27th, 2018. Fliers available.

The other event is St. John’s Family Camping weekend at Lake Huron Campground. Tents, RVs welcome, some cabins available at times. A date of July 13-15, 2018 was discussed among Council.

Motion to approve Minister Enoch’s report and present the vent ideas to the congregation was made by Christine Snooks, a second motion was provided by Paul Meteyer. Council agreed unanimously.

Financial Report from Kim Dennis: Kim Dennis presented the Financial Report. She stated that Judy Dubay had been mistakenly overpaid as our substitute musician, and that Judy graciously gave the overpayment back to St. John’s.

There was nothing out of the ordinary to report. The Checking Account Transactions report covers from January 1, 2018 through March 20, 2018. Our assets look good, Kim will have a better assessment of the situation when she gets the rest of the reports up to date. Our budget is \$113,051. We need \$2174 per week, and \$8,700 per month to meet our budget. We paid out more in January than funds brought in, but that was due to paying the Social Security adjustment.

Kathi Bokano made a motion to accept the Financial Reports, supported by Jamie Inman. Motion passed unanimously.

The Council discussed the “Christ In Our Home” booklets in the Narthex. At the end of the month, if no one picks them up, we could give them to shut-ins. There was also

discussion about the computer program Church Windows. Kathi Bokano made a motion to order six additional large-print "Christ In Our Home" booklets, and to renew the Church Windows program. Support from Melissa Westrick. Motion passed unanimously.

Alison White said she would check with her brother about information on bookkeeping companies or firms.

Committee Reports

Worship and Music Committee Report:

The Lay Leader schedule is set through the end of May 2018. Music selection and planning is complete for these services: Palm Sunday (3/25/18), Maundy Thursday (3/29/18), Good Friday (3/30/18), Easter Sunday (4/2/18), Mother's Day (5/13/18), Confirmation Sunday (5/20/18), Memorial Day Service (5/27/18), Father's Day Service (6/17/18), Independence Day Service (7/1/18).

The congregation will be asked if there is interest in an outdoor service this year. If so a simplified fellowship meal will be provided, an expanded Coffee Hour rather than a brunch.

Altar Guild supplies- The new altar linens have been ordered, paid for with Memorial funds. Alison White reported that 32 Easter plants have been ordered.

Altar Guild volunteers- Four months still need to be filled.

Communion bread schedule- Alison has sent out a schedule to the bread makers. Joe Tinson Sr motioned to accept the Worship & Music Committee report with support from Chris Snooks. Motion passed unanimously.

Christian Education Committee Report:

Alison White presented the Christian Education Committee Report. Along with discussing Youth Ministry with Minister Enoch, the committee planned a Coffee Hour for Mother's Day and end of the school year celebration.

On Easter Sunday the Easter egg hunt will be at 9:30AM. There will be a luncheon for the Sunday School Educational staff during Easter break.

Bibles will be presented to the third graders on 5/20/18. This has been coordinated with Confirmation Sunday that day. Alison will be working on the Kid's Corner- cleaning it up and organizing the room.

Melissa Westrick motioned to accept the Christian Education Committee Report with support from Paul Meteyer. Motion passed unanimously.

Stewardship Committee Report- Paul Meteyer informed Council that the Stewardship packets with Time and Talent sheets are being sent out.

Pastor Roger stated that the youth of the church need to have a space in the church to meet. It's important to have this space and specifically reserved for the youth.

New Business

Purchase of Two Refrigerators- Kathi Bokano updated the Council on purchasing two refrigerators. Ten requests were made regarding the refrigerators with eight responses. The cost will be \$800.00 each. The Council discussed how to pay for the new refrigerators.

The money from the spaghetti dinners has been designated for the Good Samaritan Fund (3 months) and to Current Expense (9 months).

Other ideas for the money were a combination of MCREST funds, or Thrivent funds, or Current Expense, or Good Samaritan, or Memorial funds. After some discussion Alison White made the motion to purchase one refrigerator with funds from MCREST and purchase the second refrigerator with General Memorial funds. Motion was supported by Jamie Inman. Motion passed unanimously.

Building Use Request- There were two requests to use the Educational Building. The Service and Outreach Committee requests use of the Educational Building on November 17 and 18, 2018 from 8AM-5PM; for prep, cooking, and serving the Thanksgiving Dinner.

Use of the Educational Building is requested for December 1-2, 2018 for the Cookie Walk.

Kathi Bokano motioned to accept the requests for use of the Educational Building, support from Joe Tinson, Sr.

Cleaning List- Paul Meteyer is working on the list of the tasks involved in cleaning and maintaining St. John's properties.

Universal Directory- Melissa Westrick is scheduled to meet with Laurie from Universal Directory regarding St. John's Church Directory.

The Voice Ad- the ad and bill from The Voice newspaper covers all of Holy week- Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday

Adjourn- Motion to adjourn Kathi Bokano, support Paul Meteyer. The motion passed unanimously. 9:15 PM.

Minutes submitted by Jamie Inman