

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING – JANUARY, 2018

Present: Pastor Steve, Doug, Holly, Ann Marie, Terri

I. Meeting started at 6:19 p.m. with a devotion from Pastor Steve

II. The December Minutes were approved

III. President Report

A. Communication Update- Doug talked to Jen Jesse, he doesn't think this avenue is a good idea for the communications system, she is trying to sell us a system that would cost thousands of dollars and is more than our church can handle. After some discussion, we agreed we need a good directory system, and a good website. Ann Marie will talk to Tracy and Ben about the current website (which is bad and not up to date) and about other options for a better communications system.

B. Connecting Through Grace Stewardship -We have now received 54 letters of intent (out of approximately 120). As from where we go from here, Steve will know more after a meeting with the SAS team in mid January. Doug asked if the intent letters that we have received have shown an increase in funds? Steve is not sure. Terri suggested that in the end of year statement, we could include a blank letter of intent and a thank you note. Holly will write up a short thank you blurb to include with the end of year statements, and we hope more will fill out an intent letter.

IV. Terri- Mardi Gras Party? Terri wondered about a Mardi Gras party, but because of dates (Ash Wednesday Feb. 14th, Super Bowl Feb.4th, and Confirmation Feb. 11th) it was decided we would not have it this year.

V. Holly

A. Christy Hillock wanted people to know that she is arranging meals for members in need. We all thought this was a great idea, and suggested Christy put something in the Herald so people are aware of this program.

B. Policy Training- There is a new "kitchen clean up " form down in the kitchen, so that outside groups (or church members!) know what to do to clean up after events. Groups like girl scouts and "Forum" need to follow the list to ensure the kitchen is clean after events.

VI. Pastor Steve

A. Continuing Education-Steve explained that continuing education is required for Pastors, he is asking for his continuing education to be Spanish lessons. There was discussion about this- Is this approved by the Synod? Steve explained that the Synod doesn't really "care" too much about what Pastors do for continuing education, it needs to be approved by the congregation. Doug and Ann Marie wondered how Spanish lessons would benefit Zion? Steve explained that he would be able to conduct services and bible studies in Spanish, and he would be able to reach out to the Spanish speaking community. Doug wanted to make sure this continuing education had a positive impact on congregational life at Zion. Ann Marie asked Steve to set up a Spanish bible study. Steve agreed that this was a great idea. A motion was made for Steve to take Spanish lessons for one year for continuing education. The motion passed. Steve also pointed out that he also does continuing education with his spiritual director, free of charge to Zion.

B. Choir Director- Diane Krehbiel has formerly resigned as choir director. We want to have Diane Gardner officially be the new choir director. Unfortunately, there are really no formal contracts/records for some church positions like choir directors, children's choir director, etc. The council would like some type of written agreement for Diane Gardner. Steve will check the ELCA for sample choir director agreements or contracts. A motion to "officially" have Diane Gardner as choir director was made, and was approved.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.