

Peace Lutheran Church Council Meeting
December 14, 2023

Present: Jared Steinberg, Mary Berg, David Westlund, Van Kellogg, Dan Lobejko, Brian Grubbs
Not Present: Bill Schmidt, Jeff Palm, Andrea Theisen, Kim Reid
Ex-Officio: Pastor Valerie Brown-Greenly

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Jared Steinberg.
Prayer: Pastor Valerie Brown-Greenly

Secretary's Report: Copies of the minutes of the November 15, 2023, meeting were made available on screen. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dan Lobejko, seconded by Brian Grubbs, and passed.

Pastor's Report: Worship on Sunday, December 10, was a fun Sunday. There was a Pancake Breakfast, the Women's Mini Boutique and the children enjoyed meeting Santa Claus. Attendance was low (in the 20's) for both the Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service and the Wednesday Evening Advent Service on December 13. Sunday, December 17, is Music Sunday where a Cantata will be presented. Christmas Eve Services will be at 10:00 am, 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Eric Nelson, our Seminary Student, will be helping. There is no Christmas Day Service.

We have three members in hospice. We are distributing 46 Christmas Baskets which include food, board games and gift cards. Information about a new law concerning policies that impact the church as a small employer was explained. We are looking for a treasurer as David's term will soon expire. Office Hours the week after Christmas are on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm.

President's Report: Jared made the arrangements with Dan Carlson, New Life Properties, for the Special Congregational Meeting on December 10. Since the December 10 meeting was an informational meeting only, a second Special Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 7, 2024, at 11:00 to give the congregational an opportunity review information and vote.

Treasurer's Report: Copies of the Treasurer's Report were made available on screen. It has been a challenging and difficult month as we are well below budget. Some over budget expenses were kitchen supplies, worship supplies and office supplies. The new Bookkeeper is now on Salary and some of the Staff worked extra hours. Building maintenance included cleaning the drains and furnace repair – both necessary and couldn't be delayed. The Butter Braids did well. December is usually our best month. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Van Kellogg, seconded by Jared Steinberg and passed.

New Business: Dave is working with Pastor Valerie on a letter to the Congregation to inform them of our challenges. Since Dave's Term is expiring we are looking for a new Treasurer. Dave expressed that it has been an honor to serve as Treasurer. The Council expressed their thank you to Dave for his service.

Dates: Special Congregational Meeting – Sunday, January 7, 2024, at 11:00
Church Council Meeting – Thursday, January 11, 2024
Annual Congregational Meeting – Sunday, February 11, 2024

Motion to Adjourn: A motion to Adjourn was made by Van Kellogg, seconded and passed.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Berg, Secretary