

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
January 2, 2018

Opening Devotion and Prayer: Devotions were led by Bob Finn. Using the App "Got questions?" he shared their answer to the proper way to pray. "God's desire is for prayer to be a real and personal connection between Himself and us." <https://www.gotquestions.org/how-to-pray.html>

February Devotions - Andrew McCarty
March Devotions – Sue Lassi

Adoption of the Agenda: On file.

Motion to approve the Agenda: Sue Lassi
Seconded: Tammy Novick
Approved

Minutes of Prior Meeting: On file.

Motion to approve Prior Meeting Minutes: Sue Lassi
Seconded: Tammy Novick
Approved

Financial Manager's Report: On file.

Beginning balance: \$73,417.36
Ending balance: \$143,951.88

Benevolence pledge was short \$6811. The difference was made up and the full \$38,000 pledge was made to the synod.

Building Fund met budget and has an ending balance of \$30,295

The Day Care payments are back on track and up to date. Question raised concerning VBS payments. Tammy Novick will bring this up at the next Day Care Board Meeting on January 22.

Disbursements and explanation of accounts:

Organ repairs – the repair bill is paid through Memorial money. The tuning of the organ should come out of current

Devotional Materials is over budget due to purchase of Bibles for the pews.

Leadership Development is over budget due to Power Surge book purchase; retreat costs; and workshop expenses for Pr. Michael Foss' visit.

Church maintenance – bell tower repairs

Lawn Care – last year was being done by our sexton; no expectation for this to go away

Celebrations:

World Hunger	16133.60
New Hope Ministry	1391.00
Carlisle Truck Stop	397.00 plus Christmas Cookie donations
Migrant Workers	1124.00
Food Pantry	885.00
Christ Lutheran Medical Min.	724.00
Disaster Relief	4497.00
Doctors Without Borders	188.00

Motion to approve the Financial Report: Tammy Novick
Seconded: Sue Lassi
Approved

Pastor Mike made a motion to send \$2,000 to Mission Support bringing our benevolence support up from \$38,000 to \$40000.
Seconded: Sue Lassi
Approved

Visioning and Discussion:

Next month's council meeting - February 2018- Pr. Sharron Blezzard from Synod Office is visiting for a Q&A time concerning the Call Process. Regular business is from 6:30 PM – 7:00PM. The staff is excused following this portion of the meeting to allow for open and honest discussion with Pr. Blezzard.

Thank you to Beth Seal for the work on the Mission Statement magnet. Attendees of the All Member Retreat will be given a magnet as a gift.

Thank you to Beth Seal and Tammy Novick for creating a trifold display to be used on Sundays in January to encourage members to attend the retreat.

The Joshua Team energy is amazing and we look forward to future plans to implement our Mission, Vision, and Goals.

A postcard mailing used by Trinity in Camp Hill to advertise their Christmas services was shared with council. Is this something that could/should be done for our Easter services? If it's something council wants, then a team should be put together to make it happen. The cost and budget for it needs to be considered. With the saturation of social media, a personal mailing is an effective means of advertising, especially if a hand written note is included. Extending a personal invitation along with the mailing is appreciated.

Trustees: On file.

At the Trustees last meeting it was decided they will forgive the interest on our loan, but not the principal.

Cemetery: On file.

Records show the Trustee disbursement of \$25,000.

Senior Pastor's Report: On file.

Ideas to share – for what it's worth –

1. There needs to be a more concerted effort at evangelism and outreach
The greatest thing the church has to offer is the gift of Christ and faith.
86% of persons who come to church for the first time come because they were invited
Social ministry is important, but we should lift up our community of faith
The great commission is not an option
2. Every time something needs to be done there needs to be someone to do it. Be aware with new ideas there takes a commitment and a communication. Is the staff responsible for making someone else's ideas a reality? How much are volunteers able to do considering their time? There should be sensitivity to what everyone is going through.
3. Having a vision of bigger things and a leadership engaging people to share ideas is what will make the difference in our church's success as a Disciple Church.

Associate Pastor's Report: On file.

Happy Birthday, Pastor Sarah.

Thank you, Barb Gibson, for bringing the birthday cake.

Reports from Coordinators: Team reports are on file.

Youth Director's Report and Financial Reports: On file.

Thank you to the Trustees for their donation to National Gathering Youth weekend the end of the month. Please come out to support our youth.

Children's Garden Director and Financial Report: On file.

January will be a better month as far as finances. Enrollment is full helping with funds.

Petitions and Communications: None

Unfinished Business:

Church restroom restoration – no report at this time

WiFi – no report at this time

Shiremanstown Boro Project – no report at this time

Church/Day Care Mediation – no report at this time

Nominating Team Report – one more auditor needed. Bob Finn will make a phone call to fill this vacancy

Retreat Team – meets on Thursday evening. Members of council and the Joshua Team will be present

New Business: None.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion: Sue Lassi

Seconded: Tammy Novick

Approved

Pr. Sarah closed with a blessing.

Council Attendees: Bob Finn, Barbara Gibson, Shannon Kincaid, Sarah Keilholtz, Susan Lassi, Andrew McCarty, Tammy Novick, Michael Seifried, Jake Trybulski

Council Absentees: Susan Van Zile (Coordinator Liaison)

Elder Absentee: Gary Gardner

Non-Council Attendee: Beth Bard

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Bard, Recording Secretary