**Lebanon Lutheran Church Council Minutes - Tuesday October 18, 2022 @ 6:00 PM**

In attendance: Sarah Schmalz, Wietse Schaafsma, Terry Beekman, Curt Crouch, Pastor Ogden, Cheri Crouch, Laura Hollister. Meg Eaton arrived late and participated via Zoom. Other members notified us of previous commitments.

**Opening prayer** was led by Pastor Ogden.

**Agenda Review:**

Add a property review to new business. Add nominations to new business. Next council meeting we will decide the ministry focuses for the upcoming months.

Wietse and Sarah moved/seconded that September minutes be approved. Unanimously Approved.

**Pastor’s Report:**

We got a thank you from Living Waters for our contribution of $2,807.00 for camp scholarships.

Pastor updated the council on the Slovak program which will be available next year. Will we have enough opportunities next year to make a worthwhile program for a student? Might we possibly partner with Stony Lake or another church in the area to sponsor a student?

The instrument group will play Holden evening prayer again for Wednesday night vespers at 7:00 pm with a potluck meal at 6:00.

We have had a good start to the Little People’s group that Amy Swope is graciously leading once a month.

We have been participating as part of the Family Promise program which helped place people needing assistance in various churches. That program is in transition, having lost their director just recently. The church that is connected with this program in North Muskegon is no longer able to work on the program at this time, so our involvement is on hold.

Weddings and funerals were noted.

The Scout House received a $20,000 Batelle Grant

Several attempts have been made to set up a color tour with Samaritas without success. Our phone calls have not been returned.

6 homeschooling moms need some space in our building temporarily while they are attending a program at Shoreline, so we will make that happen.

**Financial Report:**

It was reported that September and October have been good giving months, but income is a little lagging behind last year’s giving at this time. Endowments and investments are down reflecting the financial climate that we currently are experiencing. Expenses are on track with the current budget.

We began discussing the 2023 budget. More to follow.

**New or Urgent Business:**

1) Hayride: Scholl Farm, Saturday, October 23, 4:30-dark

Mike Schmalz is preparing pulled pork.

Participants will be asked to bring a dish to pass and their own beverage.

A container will be set out for contributions to the 150th anniversary fund to help defray expenses. Scholls ask that NO single-use plastic be brought to the farm and we happily comply.

2) Christmas worship was discussed. The 11 o’clock service has had very few participants the last couple of years. Knowing that eliminating this service will be a disappointment to some, we are, however, thinking at this point in terms of one service. Christmas occurs this year on Sunday making Christmas Eve occur on Saturday. It seems to be the best use of our time and resources.

3) Property Review

The south door will be replaced later this month. The roots that plague our parking lot drainage were discussed. A permanent solution would involve huge sums of money, so we decided that it makes the most sense to continue roto-rootering them out when that needs to be done. Our roofer, Dale Harris, wants to be called next time the roof is leaking so he can see where the problem is. What would be a permanent solution for leaking: a new roof that is not flat, so we will continue to deal with the leaks.

4) Council members were asked to submit names of anyone who would like to run for council. We also would like to announce this in church so that anyone who wants to participate on council is able to do so.

**Unfinished business:**

We decided that it was helpful to have three months of calendars with our council packet, so we will start that next month.

We think there is the potential for more Thrivent action cards. How can we be more intentional about seeking those out?

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Laura Hollister