**Lebanon Lutheran Church Council - Tuesday December 13, 2022 @ 6:30 PM** - In person in church lounge, Meg participated via Zoom

**In Attendance:** Vice President Wietse Schaafsma, Financial Secretary Curt Crouch, Pastor Ogden, President Cheri Crouch, Laura Hollister, Secretary Meg Eaton, Brian Jaekel, Scott Keller, Treasurer Terry Beekman

Cheri called meeting to order @ 6:38 PM.

Cheri called for the **Agenda Review.** Agenda accepted as written.

 **Opening Prayer/Devotion**: Scott read an extract from John Shelby Spong’s book *Jesus for the Non-Religious* about “putting God as a presence at the heart of life,” not as a far-off deity. Cheri will lead opening devotions in January.

Participants shared **recent signs of God’s grace.**

**Secretary’s Minutes: Council reviewed the November minutes.** Wiestse moved to accept, Scott seconded, the motion passed and minutes were accepted as amended.

**Pastor’s Report**: Pastor Ogden shared highlights from his report, including deciding to put our name in the hat for a Slovak intern in 2023 and the upcoming Edukator’s concert to benefit the Food Pantry. He also addressed reconvening the Generosity Committee in 2023, an initiative that was paused during Covid. Recent Cub Scout signup resulted in 23 new Cubs. Scout representatives will tentatively present the 2023 charter to the congregation on 2/5/23 during worship.

**Financial Reports:** Curt presented the Financial Reports. 2022 Budget: 196,575.00. Budgeted Giving through 12/11/22:  187,008.55. Amount needed to make budget: 9,566.45. His numbers match the accountant’s numbers. Expenses are running very slightly under budget. The Financial Compliance Review team met on Friday 12/9/22. There were no concerns from the audit team and no recommendations.

**New or Urgent Business:**

1. Bulletins – Pastor spoke to the need expressed by some for the paper bulletins that scripted the worship service. There were several good reasons to stop them during Covid, but he has decided to bring them back starting with the Christmas bulletin and continuing in 2023 with the church seasons. The budget will be slightly impacted by the paper costs and by Monica’s time on the project.
2. Budget - the 2023 budget approved last month has been amended to add an 8% cost of living increase for Margaret. Scott moved, Brian seconded, and council voted to accept the 2023 budget as amended.
3. Ballot Review – several nominations were received and they accepted roles on the 2023 ballot. Still to fill: Synod Delegates and Church Council member.
4. Quilter Sunday Date new January Fund of the Month – tentatively the second Sunday in January. Quilts will be displayed and a member will give a temple talk about the cause.
5. Sports Complex in February – this will be a self-funded event (participants pay their way). Tentatively scheduled for the third Sunday in February.
6. Slovak Intern – covered in Pastor’s Report. We are on the list for Summer 2023.
7. Stewardship Committee – covered in Pastor’s Report. Now called the Generosity Committee. Looking for two more members.
8. Constitution Updates – there are several minor updates that need to be folded into our current Constitution. Pastor will review the updates and get back to the Council about how that will happen.
9. Scouts to Present Charter – covered in Pastor’s Report. Tentatively scheduled for 2/5/23 during worship.

**Emphases of the Month -**   December – Worship and Music, January - Quilters, February - Living Lutheran. Meg is lining up speaker for Quilters. Curt suggested Pastor talk to his Adult Forum about a volunteer to give a short temple talk in February since they use the *Living Lutheran* in that group.

**Unfinished Business:**

1. No immediate need for Thrivent Action Cards. Scenarios were discussed that could use a card in the future.

**Adjournment**

At 8:07 PM Cheri asked for a motion to adjourn. Scott moved, Wietse seconded, motion passed. Meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

*Submitted by Meg Eaton*