

Consistory Minutes for January 9, 2023

Present: Mark Chapinski, Judy Peters, Sheila Tucker, Jeff Mihalko, Thadd Huss, Rebecca Booth, Andy Dembowski, Cindy Huss, Kim Harsanje, Lisa Gargas, Denise Melter, Bob Banky, Darrell Ray

Absent: Mike Sondergeld, Paul Plantz

Staff: Pastor Dawn, Marsha Mihalko

Opening 6:38 pm – Happy New Year

Devotions and Prayer were given by Darrell Ray

Minutes: December minutes were present and reviewed. A motion was made by Rebecca Booth and seconded by Denise Melter to approve. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report – December went amazingly well, and Pastor Dawn is thankful for the Worship Committees help. Pastor's report is in the consistory packet.

Other items from Pastor Dawn:

- The Events Policy needs updated – Wedding Fees etc. – Evangelism team is going to review.
- There was an event held in church, where a wedding ring was dropped down the bathroom sink. Someone from the group retrieved the ring. Now the sink pipe in the ladies' room is leaking. We will need to have a plumber in to correct the issue. The person will cover the cost. Marsha will follow up.
- Wedding in June – Dawn will start the process for counseling etc.
- AED – Does our AED work? Marsha just replaced the battery and tested so the AED works. Maybe we should have a training session on how this works.

Treasurer's report:

- We finished the year in the red. It was mentioned that the youth fund has \$4,983.
- Filling out a report for the insurance to possibly reduce the cost of insurance up to 10%.
- A motion was made by Kim Harsanje and seconded by Darrell Ray to approve the treasurer report and pay the bills. Motion approved.
- Budget Changes from December to be presented at Annual Meeting. Remove Office Manager budgeted amount and replace with a part-time rate for approximately 20 hours per week. The motion was made by Denise Melter and seconded by Lisa Gargas. Motion Approved.

Finance Team:

Salary range for a new Pastor for the Search Committee.

\$60,000-\$85,000 - Base Pay (based on experience)

Other items will be Housing, Life Insurance, Medical Insurance under the guidelines of the UCC.

Finance Team/Staff Parish: Jane Bowes has turned in her resignation due to health issues. She will no longer be in the office. Mark Chapinski will speak with her and let her know we have accepted her resignation. We will need to fill this position as soon as possible. Julie Humbarger has agreed to work in the office to help until we fill the position. A Job Posting will be posted for a part-time temporary Office

Manager from 10-2 Monday-Friday at \$15/hour, for a church member. Deadline for applications to be completed will be 1/13/22. The motion to post the search was made by Kim Harsanje and seconded by Darrell Ray.

The finance team also suggested we start a campaign for the flat roof repair. Landscape- East side of the building since bushes are out. Church people could help with landscape with a coordinator directing the changes.

Trustee:

- Plan for parsonage of what needs to be done to clean up and/or repair.
- There are leaks in the gym and chapel again.

Deacons: Cool

Elders: Good, communion wafers needed

Evangelism:

- Meeting January 30th 6:30-7:30
- A bus trip is planned to the Arc, details are on the bulletin board.

Nurturing Center: No report

- Bibles for 3-year-olds and school age to be presented during the church service.
- List from Bobbie of those that have already received Bibles.
- Nurturing Center Committee trying to get started again. Some of the names mentioned with Amy Klinger and Joanne Pinkerton. Just said she is working on this.

Worship Committee:

A camera for the sanctuary is needed. Pricing should be investigated and brought to consistory.

- Pastor Dawn will be gone on January 22nd and Dan Busch will be providing the Sunday Service
- Pastor Dawn will be on vacation February 5th and Pastor Heather Diegel will bring the message,
- Bobbie will provide Children's message, Kim Harsanje will lead the Welcome and read scripture.
- Other dates that Pastor Dawn will be gone are April 16th and April 23rd.
- We are asking church members to help out during services with Welcome & Announcements, Invocation, Scripture Reading, Children's Moment as a liturgist.
- On January 22nd the luncheon will be Lasagna, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert, and drinks planned by Cindy Huss, Kim Harsanje with the lasagna provide by Rebecca Booth and Julie Humbarger.
- Mission Sunday will be on February 19th with a presentation on Back Bay and a Spaghetti dinner with a free will offering to go toward the expenses for the BBM trip in October 2023.
- The theme for Easter time will be "Looking for Love in all the wrong places."
- Bell Choir will be providing a Special music piece for Easter.

Christian Education:

- Struggling with Sunday School Attendance
- VBS – Stellar – looking for a leader.
- February 12th Angie Balduf will be leading a Game Day for the youth.
- Young Adult – January 28th @ Alexander's must be out of High School to attend.

Search Committee update:

- Profile going out on February 10, 2023, after meeting.
- May have Town Hall style meetings to keep people informed.
- Survey will go out to member ranking the importance of needs and wants for St. John's
- Pastor Jeremiah: Glad to share with St. John's Devotional moment. He stated that consistory is the administration of the church, we are the root of ministry and vital to the church success and community. Thank you for your leadership. You have been through a tough 6 months. The retiring of Pastor Don was Celebrated with grace and you are fortunate to have Pastor Dawn stepping in to bridge the gap. This is an exciting time for your church. We have many gifts and tool here at St. John's. You have a beautiful building to offer to the community. Average attendance is steady and not a sign of failing. Look at What you can do to increase being noticed. Disadvantage/Advantage in a small community. What do we want to be in the future? Curator-Celebrate, Creator-what are we keeping, what do we want to be? Identity can't be ignored. Use the Website to start what/who we are at the church. What missions we address. Show the activities that we have at the church. Vision Statement- attracts young people, Older adult groups, Inter-generational. What is God Saying to us?

Christian Education ideas:

- Sunday School, Confirmation, Youth Group
- Support groups- grieving, divorce, hospice
- Fellowship-what else can you offer.
- Brunch- send an invite that can be put on the fridge as a reminder
- Ask for giving in a different way.
- St. John's Youth- How to follow God.
- Nurturing Center & Elderlife
- Nurturing Center-partnership with families
- Elderlife-what other care do they need.

Funds for the church today come from 1/3 plate, 1/3 fundraising, and 1/3 outside support. New Pastor should not be savior of the church, but they should be led to help the church. Unique gifts in Genoa, what does the community need, church should become involved in these solutions. Both church and community are the keys to success in a church.

OLD BUSINESS

- Pastor Dawn's hours will be posted each week. She needs to coordinate with her hospital
- schedule.
- Our guest Pastor will receive \$150.
- Annual reports need to be turned in by Friday, January 13th .

NEW BUSINESS

- There was discussion to accept Julie Humbarger's offer to fill in until will hire a temporary part-time Office Manager. A motion was made by Kim Harsanje and seconded by Thadd Huss to have Julie work in the church office from 10-2, Monday – Friday for \$15/hour until the posting for the position can be completed. Motion approved.
- Mark, Bob, and Mike walked through the parsonage. There are many updated that need to be completed if a new Pastor is going to want to live there.
- The election ballot list was passed out. We still need a few positions to be filled before the Annual Meeting. A list of Elderlife positions needs to be presented.

- Do we need Pastor Jeremiah Diegel's guidance moving forward? It was decided at this time we don't need his assistance. He is willing to provide suggestions for the church in the future if needed.

Closing Comments:

- Bob Banky Thanked the church for allowing him to serve on consistory. He said he wasn't going far but just won't be attending the meetings.
- Today will be the last meeting Thadd Huss and Cindy Huss will be attending. They have reached the end of their terms and will not be serving in 2023. Mark thanked them for their serve.
- Judy Peters thanked Mark Chapinski for his service as President and Vice President and thanked him for accepting the position of Trustee for the 2023 election.

Next meeting will be February 13, 2023 @ 6:30 pm

Devotions and Prayer: Jeff Mihalko

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Tucker, Recording Secretary