

Peace Lutheran Church

Council Meeting – April 14, 2020

(online A/V interactive discussion by Zoom)

Present: Doug Price, Elizabeth Stevens, Jon Williams, Russ Strait, Shannon Hofer, ElizaBeth McCay, Crystal Pariseau, Chris Engel, Jennie Carter, Pastor Kim Triplett, Sue Mueller.

1. Review of March 10th and 24th meeting minutes: minutes were approved as submitted.

2. Staff and Pastor report:

Jennie has been having online meetings via Zoom with Youth groups and with confirmation group, mentors, and Pastor Kim. There are no plans for when confirmation will be held, but this will be planned after we return to church. The Senior High youth group is planning a welcome project for Pastor Chris this weekend.

Jennie, ElizaBeth, and Crystal are leading the Hungry Hearts No More program, and they are dispersing food to families every other week now. There is still great support from the community in and around Peace.

Pastor Kim has two more Sundays preaching before she leaves us. She will continue worship by Facebook live and Zoom, and videos will be available on our website. She is making an administrative to-do list and will pass this along to Pastor Chris.

3. Finance:

Chris, treasurer, reported that March's income was under budget by \$1600, and expenses were just under budget. Our adopted budget for 2020 requires \$25,000 per month, and we had \$23,700 in March. At the end of March, we are -\$2478 for the year. Updates will be in the e-zine.

Chris reported that our mortgage will be converted in April to require us to pay interest only, which will save us about \$3,000 a month. He also reported on designated fund giving, which was mostly for Pastor Chris' relocation fund and Hungry Hearts No More. Our CARES Act loan application was received by Sun Trust, and they are still processing it. Many thanks to Chris for taking this on, and for Carla for her assistance.

Shannon, financial secretary, reported that we are still getting checks in the mail from members and from those groups who use our building.

4. Constitution update:

This project is still on hold. Pastor Kim will pass along her info to Pastor Chris.

5. Committee reports:

The Welcome Committee is planning to have nametags for the congregation for Pastor Chris' arrival. They will continue their research.

6. Investment Accounts Access:

This account is for stock donations to the church. When a donation comes into the account, the financial secretary sells the stock for church income. Now, John Voight has access, and Shannon has online access. Shannon recommends that we stipulate that the financial and assistant financial secretary have access to the account, not set individuals. As people move through these positions, whoever is holding the positions will have access, but once they leave the position, only the new individuals have access.

7. Annual Meeting and Report:

The Annual Meeting, which was scheduled for May, has been postponed until after we return to church. Crystal and Doug will continue to work on a format for ministry reports from 2019, and they will send these out to leaders.

8. Continuation of Ministry during the pandemic:

Council will start calling church members to check on them, see how they are doing, see if they need any assistance, and pray with and/or for them. Teresa will send out a member list, and we will divide up names.

Worship online will continue, although we are open to whatever Pastor Chris would like to do when she starts her ministry with us the first week of May.

The congregation still has an active presence in the community through the Hungry Hearts program, Next Door and Facebook. We invited neighbors to take palms on Palm Sunday and bring flowers to put on our Easter cross. The youth have stated that they recognize that having worship and connections online can reach to people who may not initially be comfortable walking into the church, but may become comfortable through an online ministry.

9. Pastoral relocation:

Pastor Chris had her last Sunday with Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, and they generously raised money to help with her extra rent costs. We have \$950 in extra donations designated for Pastor Chris' moving expenses, in addition to the \$4,000 we put in the 2020 budget. The treasurer will get this money to Pastor Chris, and we will send a thank you note to Cross and Crown.

Closing: Pastor Kim. We joined together in a liturgy with Pastor Kim, thanking her for her ministry and sending her out to minister beyond our walls. We thanked Pastor Kim, on behalf of the entire church, for shepherding and caring for our congregation for the past 11 months. We individually expressed our gratitude for the blessings she brought to Peace and our wishes for her continued ministry. We closed in prayer.

Next meeting: May 12, 2020, via Zoom. Devotion: Jon Williams.