

**First Lutheran Church of Aitkin, Minnesota
Congregation Council Meeting Agenda**

DATE/TIME: Thursday, September 17, 2020 (6:00 p.m.) **LOCATION:** GoTo Meeting

MEETING: Regular Special

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Reggie Denton; Pastor Jordan Gades; David Meyer; ~~Jessi Goble~~; Todd Werner; Sue Landsverk; Kim Jones; Lynne Kellerman; Philip Martin; Dori McMillan; Lucas Moen; Chancy Nordick;

OTHERS PRESENT: Staff:

Guests/Visitors:

NOTICE: Posted Electronically; Mailed; Emailed; Objection: Yes No

Call to Order	By: David Meyer; At: PM 6:09	Quorum: YES X NO;
Opening Prayer	David Meyer	
Stories of God at work in the mission & ministry of FLC	None presented	
Business Meeting		
Agenda Item	Presentation/Discussion	Recommendation/Action
1. Agenda		
2. Consent Agenda a. Altar Guild Meeting Minutes 9/10/2020 b. Council Meeting Minutes 8/20/2020 c. Council Member E-Voting Record-Re-Open Church Office d. Property Ministry Meeting Minutes 8/31/2020 e. Office Manager's Report-Staff Duties Aug-Sept f. Covid 19 P & P Updates - except Item 5 below	Motion: To Approve Consent Agenda	Motion; by Lynne Second: Todd Motion Carried

<p>3. Sr. Pastor Reggie's Report</p>	<p>In October, PR will be here one year. A noticeable uptick regarding activity at FLC now that office is open. Lots of special worship services coming in the next few months.</p> <p>Moved family to Aitkin.</p> <p>Conducted first in person service. Not a lot of people attended, around 30 people. "Plan It" calander, Staff can set up things for a year in advance. Had discussion with Jennifer Johnson regarding how to bring live music into sanctuary. She suggested small ensembles instead of larger choirs.</p> <p>Parking lot service. For the last month, there has only been 3 or 4 cars. Recommends, this will be last parking lot service. Focus on the other two Sunday services</p> <p>Motion: To discontinue parking lot services after the Sept 20 service.</p> <p>K. Jones asked about changing live worship to the 10:00 time slot and streamed service to 8:00.</p> <p>Annual Appeal starting 10/4.</p> <p>Pastors expenses including moving expenses discussed</p> <p>Motion: To approve both P. Reggies and P. Jordans September reports including their expense reports.</p>	<p>Motion; To discontinue Sunday parking lot service by: P. Reggie Second by: Dori Motion Carried</p> <p>Motion to Approve Pastor's reports by; Sue Second; Lynne Motion Carried</p>
<p>4. Assoc. Pastor Jordan's Report</p>	<p>Met with Faith Formation Team.</p> <p>Special worship service for 7th graders to present Bibles.</p> <p>Had FFormation meeting this week, 7 people attended. Looking at a start time of 9:15. Looking at options of Hybrid classes as well as in person classes. Beginning to look for teachers and leaders.</p> <p>D. Meyer; Asked PJ to type up job discriptions for potential leaders to better understand what their jobs will be.</p> <p>Kim commented that leaders could be "camera shy" when conducting a class via Zoom because anyone can log in.</p> <p>Faith Formation could use Vanco App for registration.</p> <p>P Jordan; 9 out of 7 families came to Camp Hiawatha for a one day confirmation retreat.</p> <p>Blessing of the backpacks will be done via web.</p> <p>Confirmands will be confirmed at separate services and they can pick their own dates.</p>	

<p>5. SAFE Team Report</p>	<p>In person Meeting Guidelines for Faith Formation P Jordan reviewed Faith Formation Plan.</p> <p>D Meyer: Discussed labeled entrances and capacity of each room and presented schematic.</p> <p>P. Reggie: Traffic of parents dropping off and picking up their kids. Could be a bottleneck during that time especially when picking up. D. Meyer; Could we designate a person to control the flow? K. Jones; suggested following the same procedure that the school use, which is dropping off and picking up at the sidewalk.</p> <p>Motion: To approve “in principle” the “ In person guidelines for Faith Formation Activities At First Lutheran.”</p>	<p>Motion to approve: Todd Second: P Jordan Motion Carried, with Dori abstaining. Reason for abstaining “Needs to step back from rule making.” “Has a hard time with pages and pages of rules and regulations and didn’t want to vote no because of that.”</p>
<p>6. Communications Team Update</p>	<p>Dori presented communication task force recommendations</p> <p>Motion; To approve the recommendation from the communication committee for adopting the communication standards for First Lutheran Church.</p> <p>Did not include worship slides. D. Meyers asked about whether the task group should be disbanded. Dori: They have talked about continuing but does not see a need to meet as often. D. Meyer asked Dori if they were to continue, could she approach the task group about drafting a mission statement and discuss how the group would proceed and function moving forward.</p>	<p>Motion: To Approve Dori Second: Kim Motion Carried</p>
<p>7. Partnering with another church</p>	<p>D Meyer discussed opening a dialogue regarding partnering with churches. Number of pastors available is going down and this is a concern going forward. There is no action taking place at this time, but David wanted council to know that the discussion(s) would take place. Members of council should think of possible issues or questions that David would bring up in discussions. David will keep everyone posted. P Jordan, this is just the first step in a very long process. Dori asked if this was “Partnering or Poaching?” Lynne wondered where the Synod is with all of this.</p>	
<p>8. 9/1/2020 Financial Report w/Updates</p>	<p>D. Meyer; Pointed out slight change to the graph depicting “Income-Average/Goal/Actual. \$20K down for year. YTD Actual Expenses exceeding actual income. Building Fund- is down into the “Rainy Day cushion” At this point, income is still meeting expenses. Checking started at \$68K+/-, balance now is \$47K+/- Kim expressed that we need to make members more aware of the trend. P Jordan; we are into the rainy day cushion, but the pandemic is a “rainy day’. It needs to be addressed but we are not in the panic mode yet. D Meyer referred to 2016 as a much more dire situation. We can work on other ways to present a clearer financial picture so members are aware.</p> <p>Motion: To approve financial report</p>	<p>Motion: To Approve: P Reggie Second by: Dori Motion Carried</p>

• NOTICES:		
○ Council Workshops	Confirmed Date: 9/24; Focus for 9/24/2020 In-Person Workshop at church – Strategic Planning; 10/22 Topics to be determined	
• Additional Items	<p>Kim Jones asked if we had responded to Jennifer Cummings. D. Meyer and P Reggie did reach out to her. D Meyer asked if she would be interested in joining Safe Team and she would consider it. There is a lot of people struggling with how Covid has affected church and their lives.</p> <p>D Meyer said that he had a discussion with another Aitkin area Church Council President and discussed the common issue of where the churches want to be regarding safety for congregations with both sides of the issue raising concerns.</p>	
• Closing Prayer	P. Reggie	
• Meeting Adjourned	Motion: To adjourn at 8:26PM	Motion; Sue Second: Kim
Executive Session		

Secretary: Todd Werner Date: 9/17/2020