

OSSEO EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

January 13, 2016

The regular meeting of the OELC Council was called to order by President Vern Larson at 6:03PM on Wednesday, January 13, 2016. Members present were: Vern Larson, Dionne Anderson, Tom Peterson, Allyson Barka, Shannon Hasz, Kurt Howson, Betty Ward, Maria Paulus, Brett Jensen, and Tali Kempf. Members absent were: Bryce Haas. Church Staff present were: Pastor Bryan, Pastor Hosmann, Molly Vold, Deanna Klindworth, and Pastor Les Munnik. Guests included members of the transition team: Kurt Skoyen, Lisa Skoyen, Janelle Skoyen, Dan Ness and Eric Rogness.

Tali K. led devotions

President Vern L. thanked the transition team members for their commitment. Pastor John shared the expectation for the transition team and noted the need to schedule meetings on a regular basis for the next several weeks. The team's role is to ensure the "study questionnaire" is completed by as many congregation members as possible. This will require team members to make phone contacts, face to face contacts, and reminders during announcements at church services as there will be only 3 weeks allotted to complete the study questionnaire. The compilation of the profile is the follow-up to the questionnaire that will be used in the call process. The transition team's work is done when the profile is completed, however it is desirable to have 2 members from this team be a part of the "call committee".

Pastor Tom shared that the questionnaire will be 100 questions that can be completed either electronically or hard copy and will take approximately 20-25 minutes to complete. The company that will collect the responses and analyze them will make a presentation to the congregation on the results. The survey will be released at the annual congregation meeting, January 18, 2016.

Secretary's Report – Minutes from the December 9, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Betty W. and seconded by Shannon H. to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

Pastors' Report – A hard copy report was provided to council members sharing updates on the 8th grade confirmation class and Wednesday night Lenten Services.

Pastor Tom passed out the results of the Clarity Check survey that council members took last fall. Discussion took place regarding the results.

Youth and Family Report – Pastor Les provided an update of past and upcoming youth events and the current budget. He shared that the pork chop sandwich fund raiser for Malawi Relief Fund on January 10th had raised approximately \$500. He also thanks everyone who helped at Ruby's pantry on such a cold day, Tuesday, January 12, 2016. A total of 180 people received needed food items.

Music and Worship Ministry – Jim Newman outlined the 2-3 priorities that the committee is focusing on. Music for services in addition to being more current is tied to the lessons/themes for each Sunday.

Jim also shared the recent status of the sound system which is also a focus for the year. He met with Andrew Pearson from Audio Architects, in Chippewa Falls. Total funds needed to install a new system in the sanctuary that includes new circuits, a sound board, microphones etc is approximately \$43,000.00. Discussion by council members followed regarding how best to move forward with this much needed and overdue improvement to our facility. Tali K. made the motion to recommend at a special congregational meeting that we borrow up to \$45,000.00 to move forward with contracting with Audio Architects to

install this new system. Dionne A. seconded the motion. Motion carried. This will be rolled out at the Annual Meeting on January 18, 2016 with a date for the Special Meeting to be determined at a later time.

Parish Administrator's Report – no report for this month.

Assistant Parish Administrator's Report - Deanna K. reviewed the month end budget handouts that were provided to council members prior to the meeting.

She also provided copies of the formal audit report for the year ending 2014 conducted by the firm of CliftonLarsonAllen. These reports will also be available for anyone that expresses an interest in getting a copy at the annual meeting, 1/18/16.

Deanna reports on the contact made regarding programmable thermostats. A verbal quote of \$1930 for 2 of these thermostats was received from Certified. This item will be handled by the incoming Property and Grounds committee.

Committee Reports –

Stewardship/Finance – Tom P. and Deanna K. provided an overview of the items from this committee's recent meeting.

Tom P. shared the results of the recent Time and Talents form for members to sign up to volunteer for committees/ministries. Summaries were made available to committee chairs.

The idea of procuring envelopes for those members currently using "Simply Giving" and unable to gift during Lent, Advent, and other special times of the church year was presented and discussed. After discussion by the council members present, approval was given to church staff to purchase these envelopes and provide them to the current members signed up for "Simply Giving".

A discussion on the idea of issuing quarterly giving statements focused on the value that this has to remind members of their gifting to date. Pastor Tom shared the idea of providing the congregation an update on the financial status of the church on a regular quarterly basis as well. The consensus of the council was to issue quarterly statements and quarterly financial status of the church.

Property and Grounds – Tali K. shared that John Haugen had recently completed a walk-through of parsonage #1 with a representative from Lampert Lumber Co. in Augusta. The outcome was that all new windows are needed, replace the carpet in the basement, professional cleaning of the carpet upstairs. Estimates of the total cost for this were not available at this time.

Evangelism – Brett J. thanked everyone for their help with the new member orientation, installation and coffee hour.

Old Business – Deanna shared the totals for the Malawi Relief Fund to date.

New Business –

Annual Congregation Meeting - Preparation for the Annual Meeting were shared and discussed. Items on the agenda were identified to have follow-up prior to the meeting.

New Council Retreat - Tom P. reminded council members of the ½ day retreat for the new council scheduled for Saturday, January 30, 2016 at OELC. Outgoing council members are invited to attend this retreat to pass along any information regarding their committees to new council members.

A retreat agenda planning meeting was set for Wednesday, January 20, 2016 @ 5:30 PM at church. Any and all council members were invited to attend along with Pastors Tom and John.

7th Grade Confirmation – Shannon H. shared a request from Tina Bollinger that a curriculum be purchased for this class for the 2016-2017 year. Many council members expressed their agreement with this request.

Motion to adjourn without objection by Shannon H. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tom Peterson, vice President