

OSSEO EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
April 8, 2015

The regular meeting of the OELC Council was called to order by President Vern Larson at 6:33pm on Wednesday, April 8, 2015. Members present were: Vern Larson, Dionne Anderson, Allyson Barka, Kurt Howson, Bret Jensen, Tali Kempf, Maria Paulus, Tom Peterson, Alyssa Skoyen and Betty Ward.

Members absent were: Bryce Haas and Shannon Hasz. Church Staff present were: Molly Vold and Deanna Klindworth.

Vern L. led devotions from Ephesians centered on “what money can’t buy”.

Secretary’s Minutes Presented

- Minutes from the March 11, 2015 Church Council Meeting were reviewed.
- Motion made by Bret J. and seconded by Deanna K. to accept the minutes with amendments previously made by Bret J. via email. Motion carried.

Staff Reports

Parish Administrator’s Report

- Molly V. reported that the order for next years’ envelopes must be submitted by the end of the month. Discussion followed whether to include special envelopes for “debt retirement”. Decision was made to include two annual envelopes giving opportunities for members to designate to special funds of their choice.

Assistant Administrator’s Report

- Deanna K. reviewed the month end budget handouts that were provided to council members prior to the meeting and provided comments regarding the fees for tune-up of the organ.
- Bills are all paid up to date.
- She will move forward with preparations for the audit.

Committee Reports

Youth

- Pastor Les reported the Palm Sunday breakfast to benefit youth going to Luther Park went exceptionally well. The chili cook-off will be coming up soon. There will be a bowling event coming up for families.
- ASP youth are in the process of making 23 benches as ordered by members of both congregations. The project helps teach the kids the basics of sawing, drilling, etc. and assists in preparing them for the trip.
- Financials for the youth groups are doing well. They will be doing an auction event and a stock sale.
- A request was made for anyone who is available to come help with Ruby’s Pantry next Tuesday.

Worship

- Maria P. reported that Lori Reynolds is the new worship chairperson. Vern L. reported that Dave Lundberg is willing to assist.

Property

- Tali K reported the committee will have a meeting next Thursday. On the spring to-do list is to wash the church signs on either side of town. The leaks in the church roof only occur with ice; not with rain.

Endowment

- Tom P. reported that the deadline for the scholarship applications was extended to April 15 to coincide with the school deadlines for general scholarships.

Finance/Stewardship

- Tom P. reported the committee will be meeting soon regarding the CMR recommendations.

Internship

- Betty W. reported that although there is not a current internship committee, banners were made for both David Tielbar and Karen Russell for their graduations from seminary.

Special Gifts

- Betty W. reported that there is a need to re-plate/refinish the communion ware and will be looked into.

Personnel

- Alyssa S. reported that members of the personnel committee and the executive committee will be meeting with the Bishop this Sunday to discuss long-term staffing needs.

Evangelism

- Bret J. reported that he and Jackie Tiller are working on a promotional video for the visiting partners and hope to put together a short video of a sample visit to share in church as well as sharing via social media.
- They will meet to discuss ‘gifts’ for visitors and clean-up of the visitors and potential members database.

Technology

- Bret J. reported that he set Pastor Les up with accessing the church calendar from his phone and may look into putting together tutorials for accessing the church calendar on mobile devices.
- He also ran a prototype of the system we will use to live stream the church service on May 10th.

Preschool

- Allyson B. reported that the preschool had a great “that’s my pan” fundraiser.

Christian Education

- Dionne A. reported that Sunday School kids grade 3 and up will be signing with the choir at first service on Sunday, April 19. Children will be singing second service on May 10.

Nominating – no report.

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

Vacation Bible School

- Vern L. reported that Melissa J. will be heading the efforts regarding vacation bible school. Counselors from Luther Park will facilitate VBS from June 29 – July 1. Housing is needed for the counselors.

Staffing Needs

- Molly V. brought to council’s attention the changing staffing needs for office staff for summer.
- She shared that Pastor Lewis wishes for council to clarify the discussion goals for the upcoming meeting with the Bishop.
- Discussion followed regarding the goals to have a dialogue with the Bishop of the benefits of having a “called” staff-person vs. a non-called staff person, the various benefit packages associated with each, possible focuses of the position or positions i.e. planning flow and music of worship services, incorporating a contemporary service, visitation, teaching confirmation, leading bible study classes.
- Discussion was also had regarding meeting the salary needs of such a position.

Pastor Lewis’ Report

- Pastor Lewis shared a letter from a past intern based out of Brazil.
- The church will be providing space for a local musician on April 24 7-9pm.
- There are a few funerals coming up, a 50th wedding anniversary and Karen Russell’s ordination.
- Summer sabbatical will be covered by Pastor Daniel Hoy. A draft of a document was shared regarding Congregational Guidelines and Leadership Strategies During Pastor Thompson’s Sabbatical.

Next regular council meeting is set for Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 6:00 PM. Betty W. will lead devotions.

Motion to adjourn was made by Tali K. to adjourn without objection and seconded by Dionne A. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Skoyen
Council Secretary