**Shepherd of the Sierra Lutheran Church**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date**: March 12, 2024

**Called to Order:** 6:00 PM by President Jim Blatchford

**Present**: Jim Blatchford, Lennie L, Debbie H, Kristin T, Cathie C, Cherie H, Jack C

Excused: Pastor Hilton, Rex R, Doris Blatchford, Jane L

**Opening Prayer**: Jim Blatchford

**Public Comments:**  None.

**President’s Comments:** Jim Blatchford circulated a card for Mount Olive Lutheran Church thanking them for the donation of their gently used sound board.

Jim shared a parcel map received from Douglas County showing construction to be done on the east side of Highway 395.

Signs have been ordered regarding “Employees” which will need to be posted when a pastor is hired.

**Minutes: M/S/C** to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2024, council meeting.

**Treasurer’s Report**:

See Report. Cherie circulated a Transaction List by Vendor on which each board chairman signed off on the transactions for their particular board for expenditures for January and February. This executed copy will be scanned and included in the minutes from this meeting. **M/S/C** to accept Treasurer’s Report as presented and the Transaction List by Vendor.

**Financial Secretary Report**: See Report.

**Pastor’s Report:** See Report. With the absence of Pastor Hilton, Jim Blatchford reported that Pastor Hilton expressed his desire for the Elders to contact members on a regular basis. Jack Coyne reported that the Elders are working on preparing a process for this matter. Lennie Lerg inquired about members signing in on the Membership Attendance slips. An announcement will be made after service.

**Elders Report:** Jack C reported that no report has been made due to the fact that the Elders meet on the first Sunday of the month and have not met due to church being cancelled due to storms. Jack will make an announcement that the Elders are still in need of more people to volunteer. Discussion was held regarding the ushers locking the northern doors and the doors next to the office once the Sunday service has begun. Rex Reed is looking into forming a security team.

**Call Committee:** Jack C reported that the meet and greet is scheduled with Pastor W on Saturday, March 23rd at the church.

**Trustees Report**: See Report.

**Facilities Manager:** Three requests have been received for the use of our church. **M/S/C** as follows:

Approve Bella Voce to utilize the church for their May 11, 2024 concert (all necessary paperwork has been received);

Approve Carson City Symphony Association’s use of the Sanctuary every Wednesday from 3:30 to 4:30 PM for a youth chorus (all necessary paperwork has been received);

Approve Consort Canzona to use the Sanctuary on May 5. 2024 for their concert (paperwork will be completed upon Rex’s return).

**Evangelism Report**: See Report. Cathie Collier reported that Heidi D has offered the use of her 12’ x 24’ storage shed for donated items. Jim Blatchford will check with the church insurance carrier regarding liability insurance.

**Fellowship Report:** No Report. Jim Blatchford extended Doris’s thanks for everyone who has stepped up to assist with Fellowship during her recent surgery and absence.

**eCommunications Report:** See Report. Jim Blatchford reported the immediate need to replace the wireless microphones and upgrade the RF system used during the Sunday church services. The approximate cost is $2500 and the funds for this expenditure will be covered from the recently gifted designated donation (See Recent Gift Priorities below).

**Old Business:**

**Moving Piano:** Jim Blatchford has a trailer and he and Lennie L will coordinate this with Bev C and the donor of the piano.

**Recent Gift Priorities:** After discussing the suggested ideas for this donation, the following suggestions were considered as priorities:

New Wireless Microphones (See eCommunications above)

Locking Mailbox

Window coverings for youth room

New safe (possibly digital) (Jim Blatchford will coordinate with Rex R)

Discussion was held on a locking gate similar to the church next door. Additional items on the list:

Choir Chairs

New Christmas Tree for the Sanctuary

Lighting for sidewalks

Janitor Cabinet

Piano Tuning

New loft vacuum

The A/V Consultant will be removed from this list as Jim Blatchford is in contact with a person who can assist him.

**Annual Events:** (tentatively scheduled)**:**

March 13/20 – Soup Suppers/Lenten Services

March 13 – SOSOS

March 16 – Irish Lutheran Day (Jim Blatchford)

March 28 – Maundy Thursday Service

March 29 – Good Friday Service

March 31 – Easter Sunday (Brunch)

April 14 – Voters’ Meeting

May 12 – Mother’s Day (flowers)

May 19 – Confirmation Sunday (Doris Blatchford/L)

June 16 – Father’s Day (Debbie/Karen)

June 22 (June 29th if necessary) at Kim and Nate’s (Doris)

July 4 – Parking Lot Picnic (Jim Blatchford)

August 3 – Parking Lot Show and Shine (Hot August Nights) (sell ice cream)

October 6 – Oktoberfest (L)

October – Voters’ Meeting

November 10 or 17 – Chili Cookoff (Matt S)

November 24 – Thanksgiving Feast (Doris)

November 30 – Cookie Exchange and Sanctuary Decorating

December 4/11/18 – Soup Suppers and Advent Services

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service

**New Business:**

**Thank You Note:** See President’s Comments above.

**Thrivent Donation:** A $784.00 donation has been received from Thrivent. It was decided this money will be deposited into the Evangelism budget with the money being used to purchase two (2) vinyl banners (4’ x 10”) (Celebrate Easter) along with the necessary costs to install the banners. These banners will not include dates and can be used yearly.

**Carson City Symphony:** See Facilities Manager above.

**Vinyl Banners for Easter/Christmas/Special Services to be placed outside by the cross:**

See Thrivent Donation above.

**Discussion Items:**

The next Voter’s Meeting will be held on April 14, 2024. The Fall Voters’ Meeting will be held in October (election of officers).

Jim Blatchford asked Lennie L to look into our copy machine and the costs associated with it to determine if there is a more cost-effective method available.

**Next Meeting:** April 9, 2024

**Public Comments:** None.

**Closing Prayer**: Cherie H

**Adjournment**: Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie H