**Shepherd of the Sierra Lutheran Church**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date**: July 9, 2024

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

**Present**: Pastor H, Jim Blatchford, Lennie L, Debbie H, Kristin T, Cherie H, Jack C, Marcia C, Rex R, Doris Blatchford

**Opening Prayer**: Pastor H

**Public Comments:**  None.

**President’s Comments:**

**PSOM:** Public Safety Outage Management - Jim Blatchford checked into this and the church is not in the affected area, however, this may have an impact on the church insurance policy.

**Required Employee Posters –** The posters have been ordered, received and will be posted by Jim Blatchford.

**Call Committee Recognition Input:** Matt S is handling.

**Minutes: M/S/C** to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2024, Council Meeting.

**Treasurer’s Report**:

See Report. Cherie H addressed all questions and concerns. Cherie will provide a separate report for the designated discretionary funds. **M/S/C** to accept Treasurer’s Report as presented and the Transaction List by Vendor.

**Employee/Contractor Payroll Services Status:** Cherie is completing the setup for this service through Ministry Works. The employee (Pastor James) and contractors (church secretary, organists, vacancy pastor and guest pastors) will be paid bi-weekly with the first payday being August 2, 2024.

**Financial Secretary Report**: See Report. Kristin T finalized the form for members to complete when making “In-Kind” donations to the church which will ensure that all required information is included in the receipt. Successful meeting with BofA to rectify incorrect action taken by the bank regarding a lost check. After two months the amount was redeposited into the church account. Housing Fund has been created in Church Center for specific donations to that fund.

**Pastor’s Report:** See Report. Pastor H highlighted his accomplishments in accordance with the terms of the Vacancy Pastor Agreement entered into with the church. He will coordinate with Pastor C continued care for the shut-ins for August and will coordinate a transition plan for SOS worship services in August. Council members thanked Pastor H for his outstanding service and excellent care he provided our church.

**Elders Report:** See Report. Jack C reported that the Elders may possibly meet with Pastor James before the next scheduled meeting on August 4th. Church membership will be divided among the elders soon.

**Transition Team:** This team consisting of the Call Committee members and the Elders will be assisting Pastor James with housing and the logistics of getting his family moved and situated.

**Trustees Report**: No Report. Rex R reported that the Workman’s Comp insurance will be up for renewal in November and he will be requesting quotes from at least two insurance agencies. Rex will be repairing a failed water controller in the atrium.

**Facilities Manager:** See report. Doris Blatchford reported that the new lighter tables were ordered and have been placed in the fellowship hall. Our facilities will be busy during the next month for the installation of Micah G(newly hired principal at SLHS) on August 4th and the installation of Pastor James on August 11th. She is waiting to hear from SLHS in regards to their use of the kitchen for their Home Economics classes.

**Evangelism Report**: See Report. In Cathie C’s absence, Jim Blatchford reported for Cathie that the missionary fund monies will be donated to the LCMS Joint Seminary Fund (Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Concordia Seminary in St. Louis). The Evangelism team is encouraging church members to attend the Austin’s House Fundraiser in Gardnerville.

Janet G has been responsible for making sure the AED device in the fellowship hall is charged and operational, however, she is unable to continue this duty. The Trustee Facilities will assume this responsibility.

**Fellowship Report:** See Report. Marcia C reported the past and future activities of the Fellowship Committee. The Elders will coordinate the August 4th breakfast in Matt S’s absence. Menu for Pastor James’ installation meal was discussed. Fellow church pastors from Reno, Sparks and Elko will be invited. Doris Blatchford thanked Marcia for the excellent job in assuming the duties of the Fellowship Team Chairman.

**eCommunications Report:** See Report. Jim Blatchford reported that the computer in the sanctuary that is used for streaming has been hard wired. Assistance has been received in fine tuning the speakers and the new soundboard. Received praise on the ushers being able to use an IPad to observe the entrance doors and parking lot during the Sunday service.

**Old Business:**

**Housing Financing Committee Update:** To date the donated total is $5,025.00.

**Recent Gift Priorities:**

Window coverings for multi purpose room (previously the youth room) have been purchased and are ready to be installed once the room is painted (Marcia and Deb R to meet with Rex to purchase the paint).

Christmas Tree – Pat N is researching (Jim/Doris have information).

Locking Mailbox and New Safe (Jim Blatchford and Debbie Hochsprung).

Storage Shed – removed from list.

Electric Sign will be removed from the pending list due to issues with easements and permits.

Outdoor BBQ in the courtyard was discussed in depth (including shade cover and picnic tables) (Doris)

Instant hot water in the kitchen (Rex informed Council that we need to use our water or the church could lose some of the water rights)

Replace water fountain with one with a water bottle feature

Newly added item: Carpet replacement in office and multi purpose room (Jack C) Note: This may come out of Capital Maintenance budget.

**Printer Savings:** Lennie L will have a report at next month’s meeting.

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

July 28 – Pastor H’s last day as Vacancy Pastor

Theme and menu were discussed

August – Car Show may not happen

August 4 – Installation of Micah G SLHS

August 11 – Installation of Pastor James (Fellowship)

September 29 – Oktoberfest (L/T)

October 13 – Voters’ Meeting

November 10 or 17 – Chili Cookoff (Matt S)

November 24 – Thanksgiving Feast (Marcia)

November 30 – Cookie Exchange and Sanctuary Decorating

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

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service

**New Business:**

**Voters’ Meeting:** Meeting date set for October 13th with Election of Officers.

**Discussion Items:** None.

**Next Meeting:** August 13, 2024

**Public Comments:** None.

**Closing Prayer**: Jim Blatchford

**Adjournment**: Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie H