**Shepherd of the Sierra Lutheran Church**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date**: May 14, 2024

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

**Present**: Jim Blatchford, Pastor Hilton, Debbie H, Kristin T, Cathie C, Cherie H, Jack C, Rex R, Doris B Marcia C

**Opening Prayer**: Pastor Hilton

**Public Comments:**  None.

**President’s Comments:**

**Minutes: M/S/C** to approve the minutes from the April 9, 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 April. 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. New functionality is available in Planning Center to allow “In-Kind” donations to the church to be recorded (will show up on year end statements).

**Pastor’s Report:** See Report. Highlights: Thursday Bible Study class beginning on May 23 “Nurturing Your Faith: Patient Urgency”; providing the lectors and pastor with introductions to the Bible readings; visiting shut-ins; Confirmation Sunday on May 19th; discussion at next elders’ meeting on terms of current vacancy pastor agreement.

**Elders Report:** Jack C reported that the Elders are dividing up the list of members and will be contacting those members who have not attended recently. The songs will remain in the bulletins at this time (some members need the large print and for some the hymnals are too heavy). Divider ribbons are prepared and will be placed in the hymnals over time.

**Call Committee:** Jack C reported that SOS has been contacted by a pastor from Texas who is interested in the vacancy at SOS. Several members from SOS have met him and listened to his recent sermon at Trinity Lutheran. A meet and greet is tentatively scheduled for June 3-5th, with a congregational meeting scheduled for Sunday, June 9th.

After discussion, **M/S/C:**

Motion to form a committee to explore cost sharing for pastor housing.

Jack C, Cathie C and Cheryl H volunteered.

**Trustees Report**: See Report. Rex R reported that the Spring Cleanup was successful, however, there are still items to be completed (atrium, youth room painting). Rex thanked Jim Blatchford for broadcasting the Consort Canzona.

Insurance renewal is in June. Advised by current insurance carrier that premium will be increasing 25%. Rex is handling this matter.

**Facilities Manager:** See Report. Donations received from LTI (convention held on May 4th) and Bella Voce (performance on May 11th). Newly donated piano in the fellowship hall has been tuned. Volunteers replaced the old chairs in the choir loft with the newly purchased chairs. Bev Caulkins will hold the recital for her piano students on June 7th. Insurance company confirmed liability coverage for use of Heidi De’s storage shed. Doris has ordered the sani huts for the church picnic scheduled for June 22nd. Discussion was held on the purchase of replacement of the heavy brown folding tables with new lighter ones. **M/S/C** as follows:

Motion to purchase tables (9) from Uline from discretionary funds (approximate cost $1330.00).

Handicap placards have been placed on all current adjustable tables.

**Evangelism Report**: See Report. Cathie C reported that a phone tree will be established for anyone needing assistance. Discussion was held on members completing an index card with areas they would be willing to assist with. Recently a church member was stranded at Carson Tahoe Medical Center after being transported by ambulance and released.

**Fellowship Report:** See Report. Marcia C met with volunteers. The fellowship committee will prioritize on pre and post worship activities, including but not limited to Sunday refreshments, Easter Brunch, Confirmation celebration, graduate recognition, Thanksgiving Feast, Christmas tree decorating and cookie exchange, Lenten and Advent Soup Suppers and memorial/funeral support. Social and outreach events to be managed by event coordinator. Lucy Olson is handling the SOSOS duties. A list of supplies to be purchased by the fellowship committee was provided.

**eCommunications Report:** See Report. Jim B reported that there has been positive feedback on the church newsletter, the new audio system is operational, phone and internet service has been restored (router in secretarial office needs to be near the window for maximum performance), the new camera system is being installed which will allow the doors of the church to be seen from personal cell phones (reducing the number of trips necessary to the church when the alarm company calls), the IPad can be used during church services to monitor the cameras. Jim B reported that unneeded equipment (donated with the sound system) has been sold ($150). After discussion, **M/S/C** as follows:

Motion to approve the purchase of additional security cameras (approximately $225) from the discretionary funds.

**Old Business:**

**Recent Gift Priorities:**

Window coverings for youth room have been purchased and are ready to be installed.

Piano Tuning has been completed on recently donated piano; will be completed in the near future on the piano in the sanctuary.

Painting Multipurpose Room/Sheds – work in progress.

Electric Sign – Jim B will check into this (permits, easements, etc.)

**Printer Savings:** Lennie L was not present to make a report.

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

May 19 – Confirmation Sunday

June – Graduation Recognition Cake (Marcia)

June 16 – Father’s Day (Debbie/Karen)

June 22 (June 29th if necessary) at Kim and Nate’s (meat provided by Kim, Nate, Lergs and Timpones – side dishes and desserts provided by attendees)

July 4 – Parking Lot Picnic (Jim Blatchford)

August 3 – Car Show

October 6 – Oktoberfest

October – 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:**

**Electric Sign Near Electric Cross:** Jim Blatchford will continue to look into this matter.

**Discussion Items:** None.

**Next Meeting:** June 11, 2024

**Public Comments:** None.

**Closing Prayer**: Rex R

**Adjournment**: Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie H