**Shepherd of the Sierra Lutheran Church**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date**: September 10, 2024

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

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

Guest: Matt S

**Opening Prayer**: Pastor C

**Public Comments:**  Matt S presented a proposal for use of property behind the church which may be completed in phases. See Pastor’s Report below.

**President’s Comments:** None.

**Minutes: M/S/C** to approve the minutes from the August 13, 2024, Council Meeting.

**Treasurer’s Report**: See Report. Cherie H reported that the payroll has been processed successfully. **M/S/C** to accept Treasurer’s Report as presented and the Transaction List by Vendor.

**Financial Secretary Report**: See Report. Kristin T’s report detailed breakdown of the donations for the year.

**Pastor’s Report:** Pastor C and his family have moved into their house. He has made visits to members. He presented A Guide to Redesigning Our Communal Spaces and after discussion of Matt S’s proposal it was determined that Matt S will join the group working on redesigning the inside of the church in order for the group to coordinate the inside and outside of the church together and present their proposals to the Council along with a budget.

**Elders Report:** See Report. Jack C reported that the Elders are connecting with present and past members, looking at the flow of communion and the flow of persons at the conclusion of the service.

**Trustees Report**: See Report. Rex R reported that the septic system treatment has been completed. The water filters are needing to be changed more frequently and he has noticed there is more sediment.

**Facilities Manager:** See Report. Doris Blatchford reported that due to the winds the alarm has been disconnected for the atrium and closet doors. Infant paddles are needed for the AED (approximately $150.00). Council approved the purchase of these paddles (good for 18 months). The adult paddles do not expire until 2027. Attempting to update the list of persons who have keys to the church. An announcement will be made on Sunday. Approval was given by Council to send a letter to emergency responders in the community to determine if they would be interested in using the church for training drills. This would make the agencies aware of the layout of our church in case of a real emergency.

**Evangelism Report**: See Report. The Evangelism Team will be presenting “Come and See Sunday” (bring someone to church) event in October.

**Fellowship Report:** See Report. Marcia C reported the next major church events are Oktoberfest on October 13th with the chili cookoff on November 10th. Looking into monthly multi-generational events/games. Doris Blatchford volunteered to host the advent soup suppers and organize the sign ups. There is a need for volunteers to sign up for snacks for after the Sunday services. Doris Blatchford volunteered to cover refreshments for September 15th (birthday Sunday). Marcia will chair the Thanksgiving feast. Jim Blatchford is donating a toolbox and Marcia will look into a space for it.

**eCommunications Report:** See Report. Jim Blatchford reported that the church website had over 1000 hits in August (first time). Discussion was held regarding the placement of an additional security camera outside the office area.

**Safety Committee:** Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 18th at 6:30PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Annual Events:**

October 13 – Oktoberfest

October 13 – Voters’ Meeting

A final agenda will be presented at the October Council meeting.

Nominations: Offices up for election are President, Vice President, Evangelism, Education (vacant), Stewardship (vacant), Trustee

A proposed budget will be presented at the December 1st Sunday service. Cheryl will meet with team chairpersons and a budget committee (Jim Blatchford, Debbie H and Debbie R).

November 10 – 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 (Fellowship/Doris)

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service

**Old Business:**

**Recent Gift Priorities:**

1. Large TV (80”) (eCommunications)
2. Stand for Large TV (eCommunications)
3. Hi Top Table and Chairs (new committee) (see Pastor’s Report above)
4. New SOTSL Sign (eCommunications) ($900-$1100 for wooden; $15,000 for electric – issues with easement)
5. Lighting Sidewalks (Facilities)
6. Janitor Toolbox (see Fellowship Report above)
7. Outside BBQ (see Pastor’s Report above)
8. Locking Mailbox (low priority)
9. New Safe (ordered)

**Carpet Replacement in Office and Multipurpose Room:** Jack C reported that the estimate from Home Depot is $7,325.00 (includes $3,295.00 for installation).

Motion to approve purchase and installation of new flooring in multipurpose room, office and coffee room. **M/S/C**

Discussion was held on the cost of installation and Jack C will look into another estimate through Lowes. There are military discounts available. The church has a sales tax exemption letter.

Motion to approve the replacement/installation cost for new flooring not to exceed $8,000.00. **M/S/C**

**Printer Savings:** Lennie L has contacted Canon regarding the renewal date and buy out terms on the church’s current copy machine. Seeking quotes from HP and Brothers and looking into leasing vs. purchasing.

**New Business:**

**Discussion Items:** Jim Blatchford will send out another email regarding the online directory. Many members did not respond to the previous email.

**Next Meeting:** October 8, 2024

**Closing Prayer**: Jim Blatchford

**Adjournment**: Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie H