

St. Mark Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
Mar. 9, 2021 at 6:30pm

Council Members Present: Sarah Palmer, Terry Karns, Onda Cymes, Steve Palmer, Amanda Palmer, Bunny Arbaugh, and Maggie Miller

Congregational Member Present: Joani Laginess (Worship Team)

The meeting was held virtually on Zoom and with Sarah and Steve in-person at church

Called to Order @ 6:33 pm by President Sarah Palmer

Opening Prayer by Steve

Worship Team: Report by Joani:

- Pastor Alex Clark will provide the Easter sermon.
- Pastor Rebecca Truland is starting an interim call in April
- Planning to ask for people to record themselves saying “Alleluia” and ask someone who hasn’t been involved to do the same.

Council Reports

- **Secretary:** motion by Steve and seconded by Bunny to accept
- **Treasurer:** motion by Bunny and Terry seconded to accept. Onda will move the Pastor salary amount to the Supply Pastor line
- **Financial Secretary:** No Report
- **Vice President:** No Report
- **Head Deacon:** No Report. Amanda will use the YouTube analytics. (approx. 14-16 views/wk)
- **Head Elder:** No Report. Bunny gave a verbal report. She consulted with Pastor Alex, dean of the ELCA Washtenaw County Conference, who said that FedUp Ministries and Adult Education (shared conference meeting during Lent on Wed eves) were discussed at the last conference meeting. St. Mark provides the Adult Ed link on our website and Newsletter. Emmanuel is starting in-person Sunday services April 18 with a max of 25 people, must pre-register, no singing, must stay in your seat, no sharing the peace. No service guidelines provided by the SEMI Synod because Bishop Don Kreiss is recommending having only virtual services at this time, not in-person.
- **Head Trustee:** Motion to accept by Bunny, seconded by Sarah. Building Use Guidelines provided in the report. Steve gave a verbal report that there are no building issues. He assured that all 3 monitors work using the laptop. He suggested using the monitors for the annual meeting and have anyone who wishes to speak come up to the laptop to talk so people on Zoom will be able to hear well. 25 people limit inside and 300 people limit for outdoor gatherings.

Pastor Lauren Kirsh-Karr is no longer listed as Assistant to the Bishop on the SEMI website. No replacement has been named leaving us without a Synod contact. Pastor Kirsh-Karr is currently in treatment for cancer.

Old Business

Annual Meeting

We discussed procedures related to holding the meeting in a hybrid format. See notes under the Trustee report. Votes will be counted by physical show of hands rather than using the reactions option on Zoom. The meeting will be recorded on Zoom by the host and then be available on the church Google drive. Joani and Jeanne will consult about interpreting the meeting. The coffee hour on Mar. 14 will be promoted as a practice session for those needing help with using Zoom before the Annual Meeting.

Joani recommended having several informative slides ready for the Annual Meeting: Salary requirements for $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, and full-time Pastor salary. St Mark Finances (number of 2021 Pledges and Amount Pledged), Building Use Guidelines, Solidarity Agreement.

Building Use Decision:

Council voted to reopen the building following State mandated guidelines: 7 approve, 0 against

Braylynn's Confirmation

Sarah will email Tiffany with the Building Use Guidelines, to request her preferred dates and times (Wed eve aren't available due to band use), to offer livestreaming. Council agreed that Sarah can give final approval for the date without consulting with council.

Other Groups

Council Members will provide unlocking and locking up as well as cleaning as necessary. Women's Group, Quilting Group, Chess Club will all be informed of the building reopening. Sarah will reach out to the Chess Club and Quilting Group (Jeanne Ross) and Bunny will contact the Women's Group (Karen O'Clair). Meeting dates must be scheduled.

New Business:

Pastor Eric Johnson, King of Kings in Lake Orion, is available to St Mark to assist and advise as we navigate our next steps. We will contact him after the Annual Meeting as needed.

Closing Prayer: Steve Palmer
Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 pm

Next Council Meeting set for April 13, at 6:30pm, in-person at St. Mark
Minutes prepared by Maggie Miller