

All Saints Lutheran Church
Church Council
Monthly Meeting Minutes – January 27th, 2022

Attending: Pastor Kristin Schultz, Kris Ericson, Jim Kruger, Megan Barnes, Lucy Archambault, Gloria Napper Owen, Lyndi Dittmer-Perry, Brian Hughes, Martha Debelak, Diana Lewis, Randine Hughes, and Kurt Rager

1. Meeting Called to Order/Opening Prayer: Kris at 6:32 p.m.

2. Approval of Consent Agenda: Megan asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda, including the council meeting minutes, the committee reports, and the agenda for the evening. Lucy moved to approve the consent agenda, and Jim seconded the motion. Megan called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Financial Report: The preschool currently has a positive balance of over \$3000 because the money from the PPP loans was used to eliminate the preschool deficit. The preschool also received \$50,000 and \$30,000 in grants. Additionally, Diana reported that December was a good month for ASLC that saw \$21,000 in general giving. Ultimately, there was no profit or loss in 2021 because of the PPP loan. The preschool netted \$33,000 for the year because of PPP. It's important to note they would have had \$13,000 even without the PPP loan.

4. Narrative Budget Review: The first page of the budget for 2022 is the narrative budget. The second page is the consolidated budget. Martha and Kristin worked to explain how much time they allocate to each budget area. Jim suggested that for the future we consider the percentages we want to be spending in each area of our narrative budget.

5. Solar Update: Jim reported that New Mexico Solar is working on the permits with the city, the agreement with PNM (at least 90 days), and are reviewing the structure of our roof to make sure it can support the panels.

Jim also reported that Thrivent Financial has approved the church's loan application for \$50,000, payable, monthly, over 10 years with the funds to utilized for the solar project. Thrivent's approval contains two options for how the loan could be secured:

1. The loan would be secured by a pledge of \$50,000 of the church's deposit accounts. The rate would be 4.5%, or
2. The loan to be secured by a second mortgage on the church's property. In addition to the mortgage, there would be a covenant in the Loan Agreement in which the church would commit to maintain a balance of at least \$50,000 in the church's deposit accounts. The rate would be approximately 5.0% and there would be additional costs for title insurance and fees that would total between \$1,500 and \$2,000.

After considerable discussion, the council decided to accept option one. The Council concurred that it wasn't necessary to seek congregational confirmation of this action, but that the congregation should be informed of the change in the collateral for the loan at the February Congregational meeting.

6. Afghan Refugee Housing: Kristin brings a recommendation from the Executive Council that we offer our church as an option for LFS to house refugees. We unanimously agreed to have Kristin reach out.

7. Next Steps for Church Becoming: Dana Peterson is coming back in February and the task force is meeting soon for next steps. Kristin suggested a new book, "God's People Made New" by Rev. Rachael Powell.

8. Church Council Nominations: As this point, Tom Becker has agreed to run for council. There was discussion about a Nominating Committee which we haven't had for the past two years. The Council acknowledges, that during the Pandemic, the Constitution has not been strictly followed as it relates to the responsibilities of the Nominating Committee. The nominating committee will be reinstated for 2022 with a departing council member and a member from the congregation.

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9. Endowment Reminder: There is \$71,000 in available funding (not principal) from endowment, and the committee is looking for ideas

10. Congregational Meeting: The meeting will be held on February 13th, and it will be a hybrid meeting in person and on zoom. We will elect council members, endowment committee members, appoint delegates to the Senate assembly, and approve last year meeting minutes, among other things. Bryan Hughes will focus on quorum counts. Marlee Barnes and Lee Liming will help us out with online counts.

11. Better Council Communication: Lyndi requested that major issues in the church, such as our current plumbing problem, should trigger an automatic email to keep the council informed of these events. We all agreed.

12. Preschool Update: Marleta is focusing on tier 3 accreditation. It will take at least a year. November 2022 is the earliest the preschool might be approved for this next tier.

13. Lutheran advocacy: Kurt thanked us for our support and talked about the legislative session in February.

14. For the Good of the Order: We shared prayer requests

15. Adjournment/Closing Prayer: Megan closed us with prayer at 8:54 p.m.