

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Congregational Council Meeting  
Monday, August 28th, 2023 Minutes--For Council Approval**

**Mission: Engage and Equip people to Embrace Jesus Christ**

**Vision: To be a growing and Christ-centered, Spirit-led community**

**Worship** gather, praise and pray **Love** welcome, care and serve **Grow** learn, discover and equip **Give** time, treasure and talents

**Council Present or excused:**

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Dean Brown, President (excused) | Connie Moll                                     |
| Mark Scott, Vice President      | Joel Murphy (excused)                           |
| Jolie Hoffmann, Secretary       | Carlton Potts                                   |
| Steve BeMiller, Treasurer       | Carla Snell                                     |
| Tammy Fahling                   | Shari Buckellew, Exec. Dir. Business Operations |
| Randy Holthaus (excused)        | David Glesne, Senior Pastor                     |
| David Johnson                   |   |

**Call to order and opening prayer.** The August 2023 meeting of the St. John's Congregation Council was called to order by Vice President Mark Scott at 6:30pm and opened with prayer by Pastor David.

**Consent Agenda.** Without objection, the consent agenda was approved by voice vote, including the meeting agenda, the minutes of the July 2023 Council meeting, and leadership reports. Reports and minutes can be found on Dropbox.

**Staff presentation.** Dave Bollman was scheduled to present on Adult Discipleship & Small Groups and the recent Youth/Parent Forum but unable to attend due to another conflict. Refer to Dropbox for his Staff Report.

**Treasurer's Report.** Shari reviewed the Finance Report, noting that we continue to be very stable compared to last month and where we need to be overall. At the end of July we are at 61K net income which included the 12k that was sent to Zambia in August. We are within budget for most things but will be over budget in vehicles as car insurance went up and we are still doing some general repairs and maintenance on the HVAC and boiler system.

**Status of Worship Strategy/Focus Subcommittee.** Mark shared that each of the scheduled meetings with the different worship times have all been held and the subcommittee will be meeting to discuss what was learned.

**Motion requiring action.** The following was proposed and brought forth to the Council for consideration, that "Upon Completion of her Internship at St. John's on August 31, 2023, the St. John's Council approves reverting Lyn A'hearn back to her status as Interim Deacon under the previous Interim Ministry contract which will terminate when an Associate Pastor has accepted a call to serve at St. John's."

Shari made the motion to approve changes while keeping pay salary the same. Motion seconded by Jolie; Council passed unanimously by voice vote.

**Call Committee Update.** Pastor David shared that everything is falling into place. The Bishop has provided a nominee for consideration and an interview date is being scheduled. The Call Committee has met to go over the paperwork and is currently working to finalize questions for when they meet with the candidate. Pending the process, may call a special council meeting prior to the September 25th Council meeting so as to expedite the process.

## **Executive Committee and Staff Reports**

### **President's Topics**

- See report in dropbox.

### **Senior Pastor's Report.**

- One Worship service went well. Last year in person attendance averaged 315 and right now in the summer months, we are averaging 380, which is a substantial and positive shift.
- Everything going forward with plans for Israel trip
- Noted that there are a lot of things to be done and might be good to look at where to focus our energies as a church (i.e., Missions? Small groups?). We have not had a Strategic Planning Retreat in awhile and asking if we might want to revisit as a means of increasing awareness as to the direction of the church while providing focus for the staff as to "what's next?" Start to have the conversation now as we are formulating the budget for next year especially if we might want to utilize an outside facilitator. Will bring potential contact resources to Executive Council for further discussion and consider adding to October Council agenda so we can set a date and formulate a loose agenda as to what a Strategic Planning Retreat could look like.

### **Executive Director of Business Operations.**

- Shari reviewed the Conflict of Interest Policy and provided copies for Council members to review and sign
- Noted how the Endowment Committee has been inactive since the pandemic and would like to restart with Council support. Carlton expressed interest in being part of the committee. If anyone else is interested and/or knows of someone who could serve in this capacity, contact a member of the Executive Council and we can add to the agenda for the next meeting.
- Currently have 2 openings for Church Council; Both Jolie and David are up for their 2nd term. The Executive Council will need to approve the slate of nominations at the September meeting.

### **Upcoming Council Meetings**

- Executive Council, September 18th at 5:30 pm in the Conference Room
- Church Council, September 25th at 6:30 pm in the Loft

**Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.**

Respectfully submitted, Jolie Hoffmann, Secretary