

Minutes

Church Council Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Zion Church Council was held on Monday, March 11th, at 6:30 P.M. in Zion's Conference room the President being in the chair and the Secretary being present. The following people were present for all or part of the meeting: Mr. Doug Davis, Mr. Bruce McIntosh, Mr. Darin Gordon, Mrs. Linda Kinna-Engel, Mr. Jeff Derr, Mrs. Carolyn Milauskas, Mr. Bob Rockwell, Dr. Sheri Huckleberry, Mrs. Deb Reichelt (Treasurer), Ms. Donna Huffer, Mr. Clinton Appleby, Mrs. Cindy Unangst, Pastor Matt Day, and Pastor Diane Day. Mr. Bob Hetrick was absent due to illness.. A quorum was met with 13 of 14 members present at the meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as corrected.

Agenda items were distributed to council members electronically prior to the meeting. Mr. Jeff Derr requested the addition of a resolution regarding extending an invitation to the patrons of the Middletown Valley Food Bank to attend worship and a continental breakfast at Zion Lutheran Church on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024. The agenda item was added to New Business. A motion was made to adopt the revised agenda. There being no discussion, the chair called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

VOTED:

2024-3-1 To adopt the agenda and to permit the President to call for consideration of agenda items in the order the President deems most appropriate. (Mr. Bob Rockwell moved, Seconded by Ms. Donna Huffer)

The treasurer reported **as of 2/29/2024:**

- February Income and Expense: February current ministry income of **\$38,870** was less than expenses of **\$40,882.97** for a *deficit of \$2,013* for the month of February.
(4 Sunday month)
- February Total Church: The February year-to-date total church *surplus is \$55,057.*
- YTD Proposed Budget income \$95,541 vs YTD Actual Income \$72,676.
- YTD Proposed Budget Expense \$102,686 vs YTD Actual Expenses \$95,884.

A question regarding snow removal and its effect on the budget was raised by Mr. Bob Rockwell and answered by the Treasurer.

The reports of the Executive Committee, Property Committee, Administrator (Volunteer) Co-Pastors, Christian Fellowship Ministry Team and Food Bank Advisory Board were received and placed on file.

A resolution for the adoption of a Consent Calendar (agenda) by special rule of order was introduced by the Executive Committee. Mr. Bruce McIntosh (Secretary) was called upon by the President to provide an explanation of consent calendars. The resolution, after explanation by the Secretary, was adopted.

VOTED:

2024-3-2 *Resolved, that* a consent calendar (agenda) may be established for Church Council meetings such that when the matters on the calendar are called up, they may be considered in the gross or without debate or amendment.

Questions relating to the Middletown Food Bank Project which were postponed from the last meeting were then taken up. Mrs. Linda Kinna-Engel reported that lease development for the Green Street property is still on hold. The Food Bank Executive Committee, the Town and Zion are exploring additional options.

On the motion of Ms. Donna Huffer (Seconded by Mr. Bob Rockwell), the intent to continue the Municipal Parking lot lease for another 10 years was approved by council. A portion of the lot is owned by Zion. The parking lot is maintained by the Town of Middletown.

VOTED:

2024-3-3 to extend the agreement between Evangelical Lutheran Church Zion and the Burgess and Commissioners of Middletown to share the 7,100 square feet of property owned by Zion located east of Jefferson Street and north of the rear of the Middletown Municipal Center to increase the availability of vehicle parking.

The resolution relating to the adoption of a new job description and title for the position currently assigned to the Treasurer, which was postponed from the last meeting, was then taken up. A motion was made by Mr. Robert Rockwell, seconded by Ms. Donna Huffer. which after debate and amendment, was adopted as follows:

VOTED:

2024-3-4 to adopt the job description proposed by the Co-Pastors for the full-time position of Business Manager effective immediately as amended by the Council. This position will be filled by the current Treasurer.

A motion was made by the Executive Committee to designate ministry team leaders/Committee Chairs and liaisons as indicated in Exhibit K. There being no discussion, the chair called for the vote. The motion was adopted.

VOTED:

2024-3-5 to designate Committee and Ministry Teams as recommended by the Executive Committee to serve in their respective leadership positions until the end of the current administration (1 year).

A motion was made by Mr. Jeff Derr in accordance with Zion's Bylaw's, Article V Section 10, to appoint 3 new members to the Mutual Ministry Committee. Seconded by Dr. Sheri Huckleberry. The motion was adopted.

VOTED:

2024-3-6 to appoint Mrs. Linda Kinna-Engel, Mrs. Bre Bybel and Mrs. Stacy Black to 2-year terms on the Mutual Ministry Committee.

The next item of new business centered around a discussion of the menu for the Lenten meal that the Council will prepare. Mr. Darin Gordon volunteered to take the lead in this activity.

The Council reviewed and revised the top ministry priorities of Zion Lutheran Church for 2024. The Council approved the final document by unanimous consent. (See Exhibit M)

VOTED:

2024-3-7 Moved Pastor Matt Day, 2nd Mr. Darin Gordon

Mr. Derr then asked that the Council adopt a resolution extending an invitation to the Middletown Food Bank to invite their patrons to join the congregation for breakfast and worship on Easter Sunday. The resolution was seconded by Pastor Diane Day. This invitation would be subject to any legal stipulations and the Food Bank's willingness to accept the offer.

If accepted the Welcome and Engagement Ministry Team will be asked to prepare and print the invitations and provide them to the Food Bank volunteers for distribution to their patrons and encourage the patrons to attend.

The Welcome and Engagement Ministry Team will make sure adequate greeters are available to welcome these guests to worship and the continental breakfast. The means for the guests to identify these special greeters shall be included in the invitation (i.e. Look for greeters wearing a white carnation, etc.) The invitation will also note that

casual dress is acceptable and appropriate. The Welcome and Engagement Ministry Team may seek cooperation from the Christian Formation Ministry Team members.

The Christian Fellowship Ministry Team will furnish additional supplies to accommodate the additional guests at the continental breakfast. Additional funds, if needed, will be provided through donations, the pledge for which is hereby acknowledged.

This cooperative effort may proceed as suggested or as otherwise deemed appropriate by those involved.

After a brief discussion the resolution was accepted with unanimous approval.

VOTED:

2024-3-8

Whereas, our Lord has commissioned us to invite others into the fellowship of the Church; and

Whereas, our Lord's resurrection which we joyously celebrate at Easter, is a fitting and appropriate occasion to extend such invitation; and

Whereas, our Lord commands us to feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Church Council asks the Welcome and Engagement Ministry Team to extend an invitation to attend Zion Lutheran Church on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024, for worship and a continental breakfast. Such invitation shall be provided to the patrons of the Middletown Valley Food Bank.

Pastor Matt Day installed this year's Council members.

Council members were provided copies of two draft SOPs to review prior to the April Council meeting.

The Council President selected three Council members to present the *Take 5* items at the next 3 worship services on Sat. March 16th and Sunday March 17th.

The March 2024 meeting of the Church Council adjourned at 8:15 p.m. on Mar. 11th, 2024, following announcements and prayer.

H. Bruce McIntosh
Secretary

