



Messiah Lutheran Church of Camrose

Church Council
Tuesday, January 21, 2020
Fellowship Centre
MINUTES

Sharing Jesus Christ with All People

Present: President Odell Olson, vice-President Charlene Brown, Treasurer Ivar Saugen, Secretary Gail Stolee, Members-at-large: Donny Loewen (Learning), Chris Hohm (Service), Dave Larson (Support)
Pr. Calvin Skriver, Pr. Bev Swanson
Regrets: Darlene Dahle (Worship), Carolyn Andersen (Witnessing)

1. Welcome and Opening

- a. Devotions: Gail invited those present to recall their four year old selves as she read from the children's book Thunder Boy Jr. about a young boy eager to forge his own identity and his father who loved and understood his needs and called him by name. We prayed in gratitude for a God who loves us as we are and shares his name with us.

2. Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda

MSC that the agenda be adopted as printed with the addition of Messiah Messenger editor as 4.g.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. **MSC** that the minutes of the Council Meeting November 19, 2019 be approved as circulated.

4. Forward Planning and Opportunities

- a. Messiah and surrounding rural area congregations - Councils and Congregations are invited to a meeting at 6pm March 10 in Bawlf to share information and consider if/how we might work together to best serve the needs of all area congregations. Pr Calvin will arrange the invitation to participate.
- b. Administrative Assistant succession - The position of casual part-time administrative assistant will be posted in the next Messenger.
- c. Front Sign - Donny presented two styles for a revamp to our sign. Council agreed that we should go with the top sample. There was concern that the newly erected City sign obscures our church sign. We will take a closer look and decide if action is needed either with regard to the City or to the location of our sign.
- d. The Flourishing Congregations Survey yielded approximately 60 responses which have been submitted. Results are expected by March. Chris will circulate the report and a special meeting of Council will be called to consider the findings.
- e. Nominating Committee - Charlene has the materials and will begin the process.
- f. Budget Committee - Ivar will approach several individuals to serve on the budget committee. Odell will let committee chairs know that budget submissions are due March 1 and must be backed up by documentation of expenditures.
- g. Dena Grue has volunteered to be the Messenger editor.

5. Correspondence

Odell read thank you letters from Unity Lutheran Church (Medicine Hat) and Our Saviour Lutheran Church (Edmonton) for gifts received from our *To God Be the Glory* mortgage burning

celebration. The pastors will let people know where the letters are posted so that everyone can read about the wonderful impact these gifts have had.

6. Status of our ministries

a. Pastor Calvin Skriver/Pastor Bev Swanson

i. Pastor Calvin's Report - Pr. Calvin highlighted the upcoming new members' Sunday, Feb. 9.

ii. Pastor Bev's Report - Bev reported a variety of caring initiatives including the importance of attending to the needs of friends affected by deaths.

She has identified individuals who may be interested in youth work with grades 6-10. She is percolating possibilities for high school and post secondary students.

7. Standing Committees

a. Learning – Donny highlighted the book study planned for six weeks during Lent. They will be looking for small group leaders who will be free to determine how their group will approach the study depending on the needs of the group. The pastors will also try to integrate the book into the worship services and the adult class.

b. Service – See written report

Discussion - In thinking about how we can be involved in social service and social justice, the suggestion was made that perhaps we could join the inter-agency council to become more aware of needs and opportunities.

The question was raised about whether we could provide shelter in extreme weather.

Odell / Sharon will see what is involved in replacing Ruth on the Neighbour Aid board. Odell is open to fulling that role for a time.

c. Support – See written report

d. Witnessing – See written report

i. World Mission Reports - See written report

e. Worship – No report

8. Finances -

a. Financial Statements - See financial statements attached. There was considerable discussion of operating funds available. Gail will circulate the summary of our finances 2014-2019 based on the annual reports for those years. Further discussion will be needed once Council has the opportunity to review all the information.

9. Next Regular Council Meeting February 18, 2020 at 7 P.M.

a. Devotions: Odell

10. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 9:25.