

**Decorah Lutheran Church
Church Council Minutes
December 10, 2019**

Members Present: Interim Admin. Rev. Jim Glesne, Dave Sacquitne, Ward Budweg, Andrea Wilson, Danielle Askelson, Gregg Pattison, Matt Burkey, Jim Sims, Rebecca Swella-Smedsrud, Susanne Twedt, Rick Twedt, Connie Kuennen, Dennis Young, Deb Myhre, Tamie Onsager, Shirley Finley, Jeremy Thompson, Dennis Wohlfeil, Mary Fitch, Treasurer

Members Absent: Cortney Holm, Randy Iverson, Scott Nordschow, Julie Askelson, Tim Wilson

Call to Order: Dave Sacquitne

Devotions: Pastor Jim Glesne

Review of Agenda: Motion to approve with the removal of the Approval of Minutes for November by Tamie Onsager, 2nd by Deb Myhre; Carried

Approval of Minutes: November minutes not available for discussion. To be approved in January.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Fitch reported that there were some line items in the budget that reflect zero but were paid by Endowment; Confirmation had no budget for curriculum and new curriculum was purchased for this year; Noisy offering was at \$469.00 at the end of November; Motion to approve by Rick Twedt; 2nd by Andrea Wilson; Carried

Visitor Recognition & Communications: Dick Moore provided an update to membership information; In 2018, the average number of givers per month was 358 vs. the current average of 380 givers per month through November of 2019; The number of Member Units totals 656 with 991 adults, 528 children for a total of 1,519 total individuals; Of the 656 units, 22 live outside of Iowa, 23 are listed as a name only with no contact information, and 62 live outside of Decorah which brings the active member units to 560; The definition of an active member unit is unclear; Sunday School enrollment for grades 3yrs to grade 8 is currently 163 students which is the same as 2018; There are 387 children listed in the membership directory with 163+ participating in Sunday School or high school youth activities; There are five children of non-members currently enrolled in DLC Sunday School; In church windows, of the members that have ages listed, the breakdown is ages 0-18: 287, ages 19-30: 277, ages 31-54: 433, ages 55-75: 389, ages 76+: 198 which totals 1,684 members vs. 1,519 in our listed membership directory; Dick recommends updating church records for the congregation; Dave thanked Dick for all of his time and work that has been put into researching our church demographics.

Committee reports:

Education - Attendance 1st-109, 2nd-80, 3rd-95, 4th-98; Jeremy will remain as chair in 2020; students travelled to Aase on Dec. 7th with Sue Twedt to sing, play instruments, and do puzzles with residents; birthday party for Jesus during coffee hour on Dec. 15th; Need an 8th and 3yr old teacher for 2nd semester; Ole will no longer be doing Wed AM Bible study after January

Youth - Jeff Rodman has been on board for 2 weeks; performance reviews to be done at 60/90/180 days; beginning to plan summer 2020 service trip; looking at Safeguarding Our Children training with help from Synod; possible youth led service on 5th Sundays which happens about 4 times each year; Jeff is willing to lead Children's Sermon on 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month; recruiting for nominations to fill open 2020 positions; Dec 15th - grades 7-8 event with more middle school programming to begin in January; possible Winter Retreat

Stewardship - Noisy offering will go to food bank when reaches \$1,000; will update council bulletin board pictures after annual meeting; received \$200.00 matching donation for reverse Advent calendar

Worship - Jan/Feb supply pastors secured, working on Mar/Apr; requested evaluation form for staff evaluations; liturgy training on Dec. 18th at 6pm with Pastor Glesne

Evangelism - Congregational meal packing event for Jan. 18th with meals going to local school backpack program and Tanzania mission; signage permit to Property & Management for submission; Angel Tree to NEICAC on Dec. 11th;

approved 6 new members with New Member Sunday on Dec. 29th; monthly potluck presentations by Terry Benzo in January and The Depot Outlet in February

Property & Mgmt - Looking at replacing furnace and a/c in social hall and fellowship room as they are 20+ years old; discussing the need for a Visitation Pastor and working with Personnel Committee to develop the job description; received memorial donation from family of Erbie Steffens for new sanctuary hearing devices; roof in sanctuary is leaking, will need repair or replacement in 2020 and Ed Building roof needs replacement; new sound in sanctuary for 2020 to accommodate FCC changes; discussed protocols for hiring and evaluating staff

Pastor's Report - Pastor Glesne's last day is 12/31/19 - established Jenna as the "go to" person for all information flow; God Squad continues to do good work; youth are actively filling in to serve as acolytes before services; encouraged council to continue to seek opportunities for outreach; recommended an official bylaws review in order to streamline the council and empower committees to do their work in order to become a more missional church

Mutual Ministry - None

Personnel Committee - None

Call Committee: stated that Dick's updates have been very helpful in their profile development; continue to meet weekly in order to organize and evaluate profiles; 2nd interview in 2 weeks with 3 lined up for evaluation by the committee and Pastor Brackett; seeing a slow in new profiles with the holidays; Tamie and Steve will do a Temple Talk on their progress as well as a Spirit submission

Old Business:

- a. Tamie O., Jim S., Dave S. and Ward B. will serve the appreciation coffee hour for Pastor Jim & Ruth on Dec. 29th
- b. Committee reports due to Jenna by Dec. 30th for the Annual Report

New Business:

- a. A Visitation Pastor will be needed after Jan. 1st
- b. Motion to approve Shirley Finley to serve the remainder of Ron Stoskopf's term on Property & Management made by Ward Budweg; 2nd by Tamie Onsager; Carried
- c. "Go-to" for all information flow will be Jenna beginning Jan. 2nd
- d. Annual meeting will be on Jan. 26, 2020; weather date is Feb. 2; Tamie asked when pledge information would be available for 2020 budget planning, Rebecca will follow up with Jenna
- e. Study on bylaw changes to begin with new council in February
- f. Youth assistance requested for Christmas decoration tear down which will be held on Jan. 11 or Jan. 12

Other Discussion: Dave will host Adult Forum on Jan. 12 as an open discussion for members

New Members:

Transfers In: Joanne Egge in from Calmar Lutheran; Motion to approve by Tamie Onsager; 2nd by Sue Twedt; Carried

Remove from Membership: none

Transfers Out: none

Next Executive Mtg: Tuesday, January 7th @ 6:30PM in Bonhoeffer Room

Next Council Mtg: Tuesday, January 14th @ 7:45PM in Fellowship Room; committees meet at agreed upon times

Motion to adjourn: Motion by Tamie Onsager, 2nd by Ward Budweg; Carried

Closed with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle Askelson
Council Vice President