

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR REDEEMER
Church Council Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2021
Respectfully Submitted by Kristi Osthus
7:00 pm Council Meeting

Roger W took photos of all council members prior to the council meeting.

Council Members: Peggy Juba, Kevin Keup, Kristi Osthus, Terry Ulrich, Todd Nichols, Jennifer Harms, Tammy Davis and Scott Munger.

Unable to attend: Mark Reishus

Advisory: Pastors Kent Stillson and Dan Ofstehage.

Call to Order by Vice -President Tammy Davis at 7:10 pm.

Approve Agenda: Changes were made to the agenda. The Council Education was asked to be moved to the May meeting. Add to the agenda the congregational concerns that were heard from the members prior to the board meeting. Motion by Terry Ulrich, seconded by Jennifer Harms to approve the April council agenda. Motion carried.

What's On Top?

Opening Devotions led by Tammy Davis

Approve March Council Meeting Minutes: Motion by Scott Munger, seconded by Kevin Keup to approve March Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

Approve March Treasurer's Reports: Motion by Terry Ulrich, seconded by Todd Nichols to approve March Treasurer's Reports. Motion carried. Income is sitting at \$281,694.72.

Pastor's Reports:

Pastor Dan's March Report

- One of our Stewardship Priorities is Mental Health. We'll be working closely with that the next month or two. This Sunday Pastor Kent is interviewing someone from LSS about mental health and we have put together a number of videos from interviews with HSA about mental health topics like how to make an appointment, expectations, social anxiety with entering back into the community fully after a pandemic, and others.
- Now that I have been fully vaccinated I am going back to the hospital for visits. I forgot just how much I enjoyed that part of ministry. We are also going back to the nursing homes as much as we can.

Senior Pastor Kent's March Report

We are pleased to have **join LCOOR 10 families – 5 with children**. They were received April 14, 17 & 18.

The **stewardship team has 3 meetings** scheduled for April. Two with consultant Brunkow, as we lay out the plan for mission and stewardship for fall 2021. The begin date will be a bit earlier, as we did last fall. Again this year, the Stewardship team will be asking Council to help them identify ministry needs and mission and stewardship goals for the coming year. Last year, the focus was: Feeding People, Technology and Mental Health. These 3 were given some \$\$ support and has given the staff a focus for our work together as a congregation.

500 loaves of bread were given out at Easter – as a thank you and as an encouragement to give a loaf to a neighbor. Two stickers were on each loaf: “Christ is Risen. Alleluia” and LCOOR info. This was paid for from stewardship \$\$, Feeding people.

Attendance for Easter worship was ½ that it was pre-COVID:

7 AM 95

8:30 AM 375

10:30 AM 265

To re-engage people in worship and to invite others, we will be **ordering 2000 picture postcards promoting our summer lake worship**, with our church and lake info. We will be sending it through bulk mail to Kampeska area zip codes, as well as our members. The cost is not as much as you would think. We have permission from County Commission to begin lake worship 1 week early, May 23.

Long Term Senior Housing is slowly lifting restrictions. Masks are required and only 1 on 1 visits are allowed. This is how Jenkins, Stoney Brook and Maple Place are handling Covid restrictions.

Ministry staff has a planning meeting May 13 for fall ministries. We will be making the assumption that all restrictions are lifted by fall.

Congregational concerns – the board met with some members to discuss some concerns they had. The concerns were

1. Personal political statements within the services/prayers/church events.
2. Political views/events being taught within our educational areas.
3. What are the ELCA beliefs and direction they are asking churches to follow.
4. Covid – short and long term plans for LCOOR.

Old Business:

There is no old business.

New Business:

LCOOR owed "Use Tax" (July 2017 – December 2020) in the amount of \$2942.38. This has been paid to the state of SD and taken from dedicated accounts (\$305 "Use Tax" in budget; \$1259 from Payee Service; \$1377 from "Interest")

Proposal for Less Virus Modifications for the Summer of 2021 – Lake Service – beginning May 23

1. Encourage people to continue with safety precautions: masks, physical distancing and consideration for the safety of others.
2. Invite singing, whether masked or not.
3. Holy Communion – will give people the option of using the Communion packets (received as they arrive and stay in their places) or to receive HC at the front with bread and wine, in the trays with individual glasses. Communion servers must wear masks. Intinction and common cup are still not safe.
4. Offering – ushers circulate among congregation with fishing nets for offering.
5. Noisy Can offering – at the front for the kids
6. Children's sermons will return at the front
7. Coffee returns
8. Hand out bulletins as people arrive.
9. In case of rain, we will cancel. The picnic shelter building is too small to safely use for worship. We will pay the \$500 for the summer (as we started to do 2 summers ago) to reserve the building, so other groups do not use it until 10:30 am and cause disruption of our worship services.
10. Baptisms – give families the option, whether to do the baptism spaced away from the pastor or with the pastor doing the pouring of the water and the hands-on anointing

10:30 AM Sunday and 5:30 Saturday worship, beginning May 23

1. We will live-stream this service – no way to do it at the lake, with wind and technology limitations
2. Singing
3. Continue to sit every-other pew
4. Coffee returns – there are a few people who arrive at 10 am and have coffee together
5. Offering – continue at the back
6. Baptisms – same as above. We will keep the font empty of water for the summer
7. Put the hymn books back in the racks. We will begin doing the full worship liturgy

Funerals and Weddings

1. Keep the seating in the sanctuary spaced out. Seating per family preference.
2. Lunches served, as the women feel comfortable, with modifications they suggest.

Small Groups and Committee Members

1. Encourage safety with masks and physical distancing
2. Limit the serving of food and coffee

VBS and Day Camp and one day events in August

1. Use outdoors as much as possible
2. Food and drinks okay, with safety in mind.

Stewardship/Mission Work Has Begun for Fall 2021 -
What is our focus/goals for next year starting next fall 2021.

Begin Process of Recruiting and Hiring Part Time Christian Education Director (Please see the hand out). The board reviewed the proposed job description/compensation. Motion by Scott Munger, seconded by Terry Ulrich to approve the proposed job description/compensation. Motion carried. Tammy Davis will be on the interview panel.

Committee Reports -- see attachments

Education _____	(Peg J.)
Fellowship _____	(Twila -- staff)
Finance _____	(Todd N)
Preschool _____	(Jennifer H)
Property _____	(Mark R. & Kevin K)
Stewardship _____	(Scott M.)
Worship and Music _____	(Kristi O.)
Youth and Family Ministry _____	(Terry U.)
Policy _____	(Tammy D.)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05 pm. Motion by Terry Ulrich, seconded by Jennifer Harms to approve to adjourn. Motion carried

Closing Prayer

Devotions: Peg Juba