

May 2020 Council Minutes

Tuesday, May 12th, 2020 7:30pm via Zoom

Present: Sam, Rayelle, David B, Marlo, Dave Z, Ann, Darcie, Dan, Jon, and Kelly. Pastor Dave, Deacon Amanda, Lindsay, and Katie Livingood were also present. Tracy Lee, Genny Hendrickson, Wayne Hendrickson, Ann Brenke, Dave Aakre, Clark Johnson, Katie Freerksen, Tanya Young, Jen Smith, Jodie Tvedt, Daryl Melquest, Jackie Logendyke, Rachel Limbo, and Gloria Gilbertson were also present as commission leads.

- 1) Call to Order - Sam called meeting to order at 7:31pm
 - a) *Approval of Agenda* – Rayelle made a motion to approve the agenda. Darcie seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 2) Devotions – Sam led devotions.
- 3) All Commission Collaboration –
 - a) *Programming Update* – Pastor Dave noted that high school seniors had just recorded the service for the community baccalaureate service to be shared on Sunday, May 17th at 7pm. Lindsay updated the cancelled status of Action Packed day camp, Sugar Creek camp, Good Earth Village, Youth Works trips. She noted that confirmation students are still working online with their mentors and writing their faith statements. Rayelle noted that CKP has online learning and worship opportunities. Pastor Dave noted that Sheryl is still in the office working, although the office is closed/locked to the public. Mark is working on a limited capacity. Amanda reported the Sunday School and Oasis held their final week as a Zoom call that offered breakout sessions. There is a group of ladies studying Ephesians on Saturdays, VBS has been postponed until August, but may be hosted online or via a take home tote, depended on guidelines issued by the MDH. Lindsay and Amanda are collaborating to combine their weekly updates into one newsletter to allow for information to be more centralized and easier to access. Pastor Dave noted the Sunday and Wednesday worship times, the Tuesday evening Holden Evening online worship service, Thursdays' Bible and Brew, and a Tuesday morning Bible Study. Pastor Nirmala is working to reach out to members by phone to ensure they feel connected and to see if there are any needs the church is not aware of.
 - b) *Clarify Governor's Orders and MPH Guidelines* – St. Johns is closely adhering to the Governor's orders and recommendations put forth from the Minnesota Department of Health. Governor Walz is expected to provide an update to the stay-at-home order on Wednesday, May 13th.
 - c) *Commission Engagement* – Commission leads took turns discussing how they are continuing to support the church's Mission without meeting in person, or what has been placed on hold until ministries can meet again.
 - d) *Worshipping Together* – Ministry Staff led a discussion and encouraged conversation of all commission leads and council to explore the following questions:
 - i) *What is bringing you joy right now?*
 - ii) *What lessons have you learned about yourself, your family, and your faith during our time apart?*
 - iii) *What scares you about getting back together?*
 - iv) *What specific areas of ministry do you have for us when we return? Is there some need that you are becoming more aware of that will need to be filled by our community of faith?*
 - e) *Roundtable Discussion* – Synod assembly, which is scheduled for later in the month, will not be held, although St. John's had paid for the voting members to attend to represent. The monies could be returned to the church, or left as a donation to the ELCA. Rayelle made a motion to leave the money as a donation. Ann seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- f) *Closed Session* was not held due to time.
- 4) Reports
 - a) *Reports* – Pastor Dave noted that the CKP report was added late, but was included in the final packet distributed prior to the meeting. Pastor Dave also reviewed worship numbers and online metrics. Rayelle made a motion to accept the April staff/commission reports. Jon seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 5) Financials
 - a) *Summary of the past month's financials* – David B. noted that expenses have been low with many ministries on hold, and fewer activities occurring. St. John's is currently operating under the Paycheck Protection Program, so staff wages and utilities are covered for the short-term. He reported that members have continued to give steadily, which is helpful to continue to address expenses that are incurred outside of the PPP. Jon made a motion to accept the financial reports. Rayelle seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 6) Old Business
 - a) *Book Study* – Part Three of *Canoeing the Mountains* was not discussed due to time.
- 7) God Sightings were not shared due to time.
- 8) Motion to Adjourn – Jon made a motion to adjourn. Ann seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 9) Council closed the meeting by reciting the Lord's Prayer.
- 10) Upcoming event/meetings
 - a) Next council meeting – Tuesday, June 9th 7pm at TBD. Jon will lead devotions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kelly Utesch