

Council Minutes for Gold Hill Lutheran Church January 14, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Mike Lawson, President. The following were present: Mike Lawson, President; Curt Quist, Administration Director; Revonda Stordahl, Treasurer; Peggy Graving, Secretary; Jerry Aaker, Outreach Ministry; Chris Ketchum, Worship Ministry; Lynn Aniksdal, Leadership Ministry; Julie Corbin, Spiritual Ministry; and Pastor Trina Johnsten.

Pastor Trina led devotions from a 2007 Council Devotions titled "Living In God's Amazing Grace" (published by the New England ELCA Church's Bishop). The passage read was Mathew 2:9. The passage is the story of the Three Wise Men who used GPS (God's Peculiar Star) and how we do that today. We know that God's Light still shines. How is it leading us today as we search for a new Pastor and we try to reach out to our members and others in our community and world.

A motion made by Julie, seconded by Curt, and passed by the council approved the December minutes as written.

The treasurer's report given by Revonda had been emailed to all council members. The reports showed that we were over budget in receipts by \$6,274.79. We were under budget for expenses by \$325.85 so our net income for December was \$6,600.64. For the year our income is \$8,941.67 under budget. Peggy moved, Julie seconded that the treasurer's report be accepted. The motion passed. Revonda presented the budget for 2020 to the council. After review of the different items in the budget, Peggy moved, Curt seconded and the motion was approved to accept the budget as presented.

Pastor Trina's Report: Highlighted item from Pastor's report was the addition of a noon service on Ash Wednesday for those who would like an earlier time to receive the imposition of ashes. Pastor has been working with the nominating committee to complete the slate of individuals needed for the council and the numerous committees. All positions on the council have been filled except the Outreach Ministry leader. Names were discussed as possible candidates. Two individuals are needed to represent Gold Hill at the Synod Annual Meeting in June in Billings. Mike Lawson will be one member and we will find another before the meeting. Mike was going to ask Annette if she would like to go.

The clean-up of the membership list has been completed for now. Pastor is considering communion classes for the children and will possibly have the classes during Sunday School after she has completed the adult class she just began. Our midweek Lenten Worship will be held with Gloria Dei using the Holden Prayer Setting.

Reports of Council Members:

Mike Lawson, President, reminded all of us of the upcoming Annual Meeting on January 26th. All members of the council have their reports in to Mary with the exception of Revonda who will have all financial reports completed and ready shortly.

Curt Quist, Administration Director. Curt, prior to the meeting, held his discussion with Dave regarding his new contract and everything is in order. Curt reviewed two examples of policies from other organizations referencing credit card use and building rentals. We reviewed these policies and Curt will have the policies ready for the February meeting.

We had donations to the extinct Funeral Fund by families who had lost loved ones throughout the year. Curt visited with these families and they redirected their gifts to the general fund and the building fund. Since the Building Fund was also a fund that had been removed from the budget as a separate fund and since there was still money in the fund the council discussed whether the Building Fund should remain a fund. Peggy moved, Lynn seconded that the Building Fund be added back permanently to be able to receive funds. Discussion was held and the motion passed.

Chris Ketchum. Chris highlighted her report and discussed the desire to have a new Advent Wreath Holder and stand. They will bring this up with the congregation later and hopefully there is someone who like to do woodwork and would be willing to make a new stand.

Julie reported that she has been focusing on Sunday School. They are up to approximately seven students. She is using a program that teaches a Biblical lesson using apps children are familiar with such as Angry

Birds. She is excited about trying to help each of these children go to camp this summer and will review Gold Hill Lutheran's policy and contact the camp for scholarships available there.

Jerry – No report. The food drive held through Advent collected a table full of food items and were taken to the Food Bank.

Lynn – Lynn highlighted her report. Orkin came in and fumigated for the mice. Traps were set and hopefully our problem has been taken care of. She and her committee have cleaned two rooms downstairs and filled the dumpsters.

Lynn contacted McGree who owns the dumpster to see what we can do to help with the over filling problem we have from the community using it. We can put a lid without a lock on the dumpster, put a locked lid on the dumpster, or monitor and see if the problem continues. She suggested monitoring the problem before we take any other action. It was agreed upon by the council.

New Business: Curt received the letter from the synod requesting Gold Hill's projected giving for 2020. With Revonda's help the form will be completed and returned to the Synod. We plan to give 10% of our offering for 2020. We were able to give that this year.

Old Business:

The Trust Review Committee is meeting this week to review the survey that they had members of the congregation complete and make plans for the next steps. Ron Gruss hopes that the committee will only require a few more meetings to be able to prepare a report for the congregation. They probably will not be ready by the annual meeting. The members of the committee are Ron, Marshal Mickelson, Mike Welker, Curt Quist, and Bruce Graving. The Trust Committee had just met and decided to move the money in the trust to the ELCA.

The Call Committee met with Jason from the Synod Office and are moving forward with the process.

Curt moved, Julie seconded and the motion carried to adjourn. We adjourned after saying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peggy Graving, Secretary