

**Salem Lutheran Church Council  
January 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Robin Schwaegerl, Kurt Hoehne, Fred Blom, Brad Weckwerth, Todd Osman, Steve Heggstad, Dave Johnson, Cory Olson, Jonathan Schiller, Pastor Sam  
Others Present: Jackie Lindvall

**Call to Order** at 6:00pm by Robin

**Devotions** Opening prayer of guidance led by Pastor Sam and read by council members

**Secretary's Report**

Motion: Approve the Secretary's Minutes of the December 19, 2023 meeting.

Motion made by Brad W, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cory O. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** Given by Jackie L

Motion: Donate the remainder of the Giving Tree Fund (\$148.50) to the Food Shelf.

Motion made by Todd O, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve H. Motion carried.

Delays in transferring of funds to Edward Jones Money Market accounts are now in process

Motion: Approve the Treasurer's Report for December 2023.

Motion made by Todd O, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kurt H. Motion carried.

Motion: Approve the wording and use of the Minnesota Sick and Safe Statute for Salem Lutheran Church.

Motion made by Brad W, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jonathan S. Motion carried.

Job descriptions for Custodian, Office Secretary, and Organist shall be reviewed and brought to February council meeting.

**Committee Reports**

\*Fellowship/Outreach/ Social Ministry and Evangelism – The Table received a \$1000 grant from the Montevideo Foundation. This money will be used to provide pickup and take home meals at special times during the year.

\*Stewardship – 2024 Annual Budget is ready for Annual Meeting, as is a draft of Stewardship report. Working on ways of communicating and presenting to congregation.

\*Property – new furnace has been installed. Paul Anderson offered to write a newsletter article addressing the financial need to congregation. Lights on outdoor sign still need attention.

\*Worship and Music – No report. Committee meets at 6:45 pm (Jan 16).

\*Endowment – no report

\*Christian Education – Youth lock-in tentatively scheduled for February 16 at Salem.

**Old Business**

\*Ministry Site Profile update – Bishop Dee reports the profile is solid but has not been released to ELCA due to our current interim arrangement. It will be held from release until our arrangement with Pastor Sam and UMC Montevideo the interim has been fully evaluated

\*Constitution – still waiting for feedback from the Synod

\*Color Printer request from office – no color printing can be done at this time without replacement or ink cartridges. Carman will be contacted about the estimates she received earlier in 2023.

\*Children's Ministry Advocate update – The job description was presented to the candidate, but the offer was refused. Still looking for someone to fill the position either internally or externally.

\*Preparation needs for Annual Meeting – Contacts have been made to fill committee positions and council openings, with many members agreeing to serve. Waiting for some members who have been contacted to decide prior to Annual meeting.

**New Business**

\*Lenten Season Discussion: share Worship and/or Educational Opportunities with UMC Monte – Pastor Sam presented his idea for joint Salem/UMC Monte educational opportunities for all ages; children, youth, adult. To be presented at Salem on Wednesdays during Lent with a meal from 5:30-6:30 pm, followed by the Christian educational piece at 6:30-7:30 pm using a book/video presentation called "The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life" by Adam Hamilton. Each week has a different focus; Worship, Study, Serve, Give, Share.

Salem meal responsibility on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays and UMC meal responsibility on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays in Lent. Council consensus was to go ahead with this plan for the weeks of Lent

\*Council and Worship Committee meeting times - Beginning February 2024, Worship and Music will meet at 6:00 pm and Church Council will meet at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of the month.

\*50/50 Pastoral Shared Journey and process for March 2024 timeline – Options in this process are to continue the interim, have Salem's Ministry Profile released to the ELCA, enter into discussions with Trinity Lutheran about a ministry partnership. Council feels it is best to continue the shared journey contract through June 30, 2024, reviewing and making future plans at the March Council meeting.

#### **Upcoming Dates/FYI**

January 17 – Choir Practice Strombeck 6:30 pm  
January 21 – Choir sings at UMC and Salem practice 8:00 am at UMC  
January 27 – The Table-Fellowship Hall 8:30 – 10:00 am  
January 28 – Salem Annual Meeting follows the Sunday Service  
February 4 – New Council Member Installation during Service  
February 16 – Youth Lock-In at Salem

#### **Closing Prayer/Adjournment** – Prayer read by Brad W

Motion: Adjourn the council meeting. Motion made by Jonathan S, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Todd O. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting** February 20, 2024, 7:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Fred B.