

ST. STEPHEN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Council Meeting
September 20, 2020

Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Youth Reps
Chris Bernard	Ivan Black	Stephanie Jones	Alex Burnett
Tripp Brunson	Sandy Dawkins	Craig McFarland	Jack Hayes
Ralph Haggard	Steve Fowler	Brian Paeth	
Brant Taylor	Paulette Shealy		
Christy Wenzel	Mary Elizabeth Windham	Evelyn Temple	

Executive Committee:

President	Vice-President	Secretary	Treasurer
Brant Taylor	Tripp Brunson	Stephanie Jones	Mary Keisler

Pastors: The Rev. Dr. Patrick W. Riddle, The Rev. Jason Antley, The Rev. Dr. Dennis Bolton

Staff: Shannon Burnett, Tonya Reynolds, Beth Haggard, Bailey Parker, Matt Ganong

Absent: Chris Bernard, Alex Burnett, Jack Hayes

The September meeting of St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran Church Council was held on September 20, 2020 and was called to order at 12:03pm by Brant Taylor.

Devotion: Instead of Dwelling in the Word, this month Pastor Jason asked the group to share moments of generosity that they've experienced over the past week or so.

Consent Agenda: Pastor Jason provided a brief overview of the new agenda format. Each meeting will include two parts - the consent agenda and the discussion agenda. Each month, the information included in the consent agenda will be shared with council members via email prior the council meeting.

Review of Minutes from August Meeting and Approval of the Consent Agenda: Motion were approved and passed unanimously by the Council. (motion to approve - Steve; 2nd - Ivan)

Discussion Agenda:

- Old Business
 - COVID-19 Advisory Board Update: This group will meet on Sept.21 at 1 pm. The meeting date was moved up one week so that it coincides with the new council agenda and meet deadline for the newsletter. Moving forward, the meetings will take place the 2nd to last Monday of each month.

- Preschool Update/Preschool Advisory Board Update (per Ralph on behalf of Beth): Attendance numbers continue to fluctuate, but the opening is scheduled for Sept. 28. The preschool will host a drive-thru welcome event for students and parents on Sept. 21.
- Open Council Position: Per the Constitution, the Council will need to appoint a church member to take over the open council position through the end of the year. This person would then be able to run for that council position for the remaining two years at the annual congregational meeting in Feb. 2021. Pastors Jason and Pat asked for potential nominations and an e-mail was sent to council members requesting their input. Pastor Jason would then check with the potential candidates as to their willingness to serve. UPDATE: Mike Brittingham has agreed to serve the remainder of the year.
- New Business
 - There is a meeting with Mike Ward on Sept. 22 at 7 pm. Council members are encouraged to attend in person or via Zoom link. The meeting will serve as a brainstorming session for goals and dreams for the future as a part of our strategic planning.
 - Core Values / Explanations – A look at who we are as the people of St. Stephen’s. Based on the recent feedback received from church members, the following top four core values were identified:
 - Vibrant, liturgical traditional worship
 - Children/youth
 - Outreach/service
 - Music

Draft sentences were initially discussed that would incorporate these core values as a group. This will ultimately serve as an integral part of deciphering and drilling down on what we use to filter our future mission/values/activities as a church and what we consider doing in regard to activities and programs, etc. moving forward.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 pm.

Our next council meeting will be October 18 at 12:00pm. Meeting in the social hall or zoom

Council Person of the month of October – Evelyn Temple

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Jones

Update – A special council meeting was called on Wednesday, Oct. 7, to discuss the COVID-19 Advisory Committee motion and results from the congregational survey about worship services and singing moving forward. The Council voted to approve the recommendations of the COVID-19 Advisory Committee.