

Meeting called to order at 7.02pm by President Dale Gruenewald. Those in attendance were Mary Lou Peter, Kim Mueller, Charlotte Mehrtens, Rich Hoffelmeyer, Earl Doerr, Bob Timmer, Dale Gruenewald, Kathi Trent, Stacy Woehlke, Pastor Weber and Pam Gowens. Pastor opened with a prayer.

BCE report: No official report was submitted but Pastor presented information from the BCE meeting.

Discussions are still ongoing for planning an outdoor activity for the youth during the summer, perhaps at the park to take advantage of the park's size so multiple age groups can get involved.

Vacation Bible School plans are underway, including what accommodations may need to be made depending on how prevalent Covid may be in July and the different restrictions that may still be in place.

The Books of the Bible cards for the Sunday School students have been ordered but are backordered.

Treasurer's report: Pam and Rich continue to work on getting all financials squared away, including catching up payments on credit cards and making corrections with how the Marilyn Fischer donation was being accounted, and getting some account names changed to clarify their purpose. Additionally, Rich discovered the preschool teachers have been underpaid this year, both due to an additional student necessitating a pay increase for them as well as not matching the actual rate specified in their contracts. Makeup checks have been issued to bring their pay up-to-date and their rate going forward has been corrected.

Dale and Pam have gotten to the different banks and Edward Jones to check on accounts and get names/signatures updated. Pam raised the issue of 4 Edward Jones CDs coming due, one from February and an additional 3 in the summer months. Council discussed the possibility of pursuing longer terms but it was decided not to lock the funds in with the currently very low interest rates. Kim motioned to roll those 4 CDs for an additional year in expectations that the interest rates will improve in that time and council can revisit them next year; Charlotte seconded. Motion carried.

Pam noted that the new AED machine has been installed, then asked how the new cash deposit process was going on Sunday mornings. Council answered favorably and Charlotte and Earl pointed out that drop keys are no longer required.

Pam brought up the dividend checks we receive from FNB Waterloo and asked for direction on what to do with them. After discussion, Stacy motioned to reinvest the dividends for the account

that would allow it and do the same with the dividends from the other account on the date of maturity; Kathi seconded. Motion carried.

Pam shared a template of the new missions report in order to receive feedback. Mary Lou suggested an end-of-year summary when the time comes and otherwise really appreciated the detail Pam is going to provide.

Rich brought up some questions around payroll, including whether Pastor should be paid 2 weeks in advance, like the preschool teachers, or two weeks behind like Pam. Pastor affirmed he was okay with staying 2 weeks behind. Rich also pointed out that Pastor has been getting his supplemental payment at the end of the month instead of at the beginning like he should be. As Pam will be getting a supplemental payment as well, the issue of end of month versus start of month should be agreed upon. Since his contract says it should be the beginning of the month, it was decided that the schedule should be rectified to match the contract and Pam's payment should follow the same schedule.

Rich called attention to the general need to more closely examine how we're currently handling our money, specifically are we investing it the way we should be and do we really need so many different accounts and CDs, as well as just a general need for simplifying things. This is a larger discussion that will need a lot of careful thought and we should be prepared to invest some time in one of the next council meetings. Stacy motioned to accept the treasurer's report; Kim seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes: Minutes for the March council meeting had previously been emailed for review. Upon receipt, Earl had requested an amendment which was made, re-emailed and the fixed minutes were included in the April visitor. Earl motioned to accept the minutes; Kim seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's report: Pastor was pleased with the Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday turnouts, a sign that Church life is slowly getting back to normal. Other signs include Sisters-in-Faith having their meeting on April 1st and the quilters starting to meet again on Thursdays.

Of note for the greater community, the village-wide yard sale will be held on Saturday, June 5th and the ZTeam is more than ready to sell the generous donations currently filling the Irma Hecke shed.

As for his ministry to the residents of Garden Place, as of April 6th, Pastor has resumed holding weekly Bible studies and as of April 8th he will once again be providing monthly Worship services.

Pastor has not yet been called to Memorial Hospital as part of his On-Call Chaplain duties but has been providing wedding counseling for weddings in the coming year. He will also be focusing on VBS recruitment.

Bill Savering will be preaching Sunday, April 25th while Pastor and Marjie are away for a camping weekend. Charlotte motioned to accept Pastor's report; Mary Lou seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Audit & Budget: Since so much has already been addressed in the past couple months, the audit review notes have already been amended. Rich suggested waiting another month for the next council meeting and we'll talk through things as they stand at that time. He also pointed out that the previously suggested quarterly audit, though still desired, would in this case be better foregone this one time until things have been further settled and an audit in the summer months should definitely go on as planned.

Long Range Ministry: Stacy brought up the church picnic planned for the first Sunday of June on the 6th. Council is responsible for preparing the meat and bringing all the supplies and all the details should be finalized during the May council meeting. After a short discussion, Council decided not to order the water slide for this year's picnic due to declining youth attendance but suggested the water slide would better serve as a fun activity for the Vacation Bible School Friday picnic.

Mission & Outreach: Mary Lou reiterated her appreciation for Pam's work on the new Mission Report.

Staff/Parish Relations: Kim mentioned that Pam's three month evaluation will be coming up and that she will need to coordinate with Dale and Rich to carry out that process.

Property: Earl reported on the vandalism at the park which included damage to the glass block on the restroom. The whole glass block unit will have to be replaced and Mark German is going to be handling that work for us.

A contractor was hired to cut down two large trees on the Irma Hecke property. One of the trees fell across a neighbor's fence and damaged it. The contractor is taking responsibility to get the fence repaired at his cost.

Volunteer Ministries: Kathi had nothing to report.

Worship & Music: Dale had nothing to report.

Cemetery Board: Charlotte has been going over details of the Freivogel Cemetery. 19 plots are marked and available. She has also been making inquiries into rates of other local cemeteries.

Earl noted that the previously suggested additional rock on the cemetery drive is on the radar of the ZTeam and shared that Darrel Doerr reports that Baltz Cemetery is well tended.

Old Business: Council examined the Church rental agreement. It was determined that the previously requested amendments hadn't yet been made and Earl made note so they could be added. Council will revisit the agreement once it is updated.

Pastor, Dale, Rich and Les Mertens met to go through the contents of the safe deposit box. Pictures were taken, documents scanned and an inventory list was made describing all the contents. Going forward, as items are added to or removed from the safe deposit box, the inventory will be updated. The smaller box was cancelled and a larger box at the rate of \$23 per year was rented in the name of the Church with Pam, Dale and Pastor listed for access. Changing access rights to the new Council President will become part of the yearly change procedures for Council President. One of the safe deposit box keys will be kept locked in the Church office. Since Rich does not have access rights to the safe deposit box, the other key, along with backup keys for the locking file cabinets for the Church office, will be kept off premises in Rich's safe.

New Business: Dale called attention to something found in the safe deposit box: a \$10,000 CD at FNB Waterloo in Doris Steiger's name. The name on the CD cannot be changed so it's a matter that will have to be addressed on June 12, 2022 when it matures.

Dale asked about how paychecks are signed in the eventuality he, as President, is unavailable. Stacy pointed out that she should be able to sign them since she had also re-done her signature at Central Bank.

Rich brought up the matter of the In Loving Trust Window and the possibility that Irma Hecke and Marilyn Fischer still need to have their names added. Stacy would confirm after the meeting adjourned so proper action could be taken.

Rich made motion to adjourn; Kim seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

President - Dale Gruenewald

Secretary - Stacy Woehlke