



**Congregation Council Minutes**

**August 13, 2018**

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APPROVED

**Congregation Council of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church**

Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2018

**Council Members in Attendance:** Stein Dolan, Marshall Erling, Karen Grams, Art Gurtel, Ben Johnson, Scott Lester, Pastor James McEachran, Dick Swaisgood, Dick Szabo, Ann Thorpe, Vanessa Wilkie; Treasurer Joni Barrott

**Members Excused:** Rebeka Gordon, Jill Nichols-Hicks, Jean Wahlstrom

**Staff Members in Attendance:** Sherry Grindeland, Susan Hegedus

**Staff Members Excused:** Will Simpson

**Guests:** none

**Devotion:**

Pastor McEachran led worship with devotional words based on Ephesians 3.

**Call to Order/Introductory Words:**

The August 13, 2018 regular meeting of the Congregation Council of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church was called to order at 7:19 pm by President Scott Lester.

**Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Minutes from the July 9, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Karen Grams **moved to approve the minutes as submitted**. Art Gurtel seconded. Minutes were unanimously **approved as submitted**.

**Proposed Website/Demonstration:**

Communications Specialist Susan Hegedus gave a demonstration of the proposed new website for Saint Andrew's. She encouraged Council members to share the site with their committees and provide feedback. The proposed site will be shown to the congregation on a Sunday in September during fellowship time.



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### Staff Updates

- Fellowship Coordinator Sherry Grindeland
  - Sherry shared photos and reflections from the congregation trip to Holden Village July 15-20. There is enthusiasm among those who went to plan another trip for Summer 2019.
  - Sherry shared photos and reflections from the high school Mission Trip to Montana July 21-28. The trip was coordinated through YouthWorks, who has been serving in the Heart Butte, Montana area for 20 years. Saint Andrew's youth helped with a children's day camp and helped prepare a site for a Blackfeet Nation cultural ceremony. The youth were awesome and very respectful of the Blackfeet culture.
  - The group who went on the two day hikes this summer enjoyed their hikes and plan to continue meeting to hike.
  - Those who attended the Compline service at Saint Mark's Cathedral in Seattle on August 12 were treated to a behind-the-scenes tour, courtesy of Bill and Kathryn Brueggemann's son-in-law, one of the singers for the Compline service.
  - The "Owlet" Adventure, scheduled for August 14, is a trip to visit the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial and tour the Bainbridge Island Historical Museum. Seventeen people are signed up to attend.
  - Twenty people are signed up to go on the All Church Retreat to Mt. Rainier National Park on August 17-19.
  - The September 18 O.W.L.S. (Older Wiser Lutheran Saints) program will feature Saint Andrew's member Marvin Kananen talking about book writing and publishing.
- Communications Specialist Susan Hegedus

A mailing will go to the congregation on August 24. It will include *the VOICE* newsletter, a calendar of activities for Fall 2018, and an updated congregation directory. The deadline to submit items for the newsletter and calendar is today (August 13).

### Senior Pastor's Report: Pastor James McEachran

- Pastor thanked Facilities Manager Kurt Lutterman for his work that keeps the building and grounds clean, safe, and well maintained, noting that the Sanctuary floor was refinished and carpets throughout the building were cleaned last week (week of August 6).
- Pastor feels privileged to serve people at the intersections of life. He thanked the staff and volunteers who are a deep part of this care ministry.
- Pastor reported on those receiving pastoral care.
- Pastor thanked the Discipleship Ministries Committee and volunteers for their support and efforts to maintain continuity of ministry during the time of staff transition.



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- Pastor noted that Saint Andrew's member Sydney Holmes is Saint Andrew's new Facilities Set-up staff member.

### Finance Report: Treasurer Joni Barrott

- Aided by a one-time donation, income was more than expenses in July 2018, resulting in a positive cash flow of approximately \$28,000.
- Year-to-date cash flow is approximately **-\$16,000**, which is better than budgeted.
- Donations collected for "Lattes for the Lord" are being sent frequently to Hopelink to be used for their "End Summer Hunger" program.

### Saint Andrew's Constitution Work Update: Vice President Art Gurtel

- The Constitution Task Force (Art Gurtel and Susan Hegedus) met on July 20 and:
  - Reviewed and recommended changes to the wording of the "Constitution Task Force," C12.06.A07 continuing resolution.
  - Considered and recommended changes to constitutional sections relating to the "Shared Ministry Committee," C13.04., C13.04.01, and C13.04.A03.
  - Reviewed and revised the wording of "C13.07.A13, "Existing Committees" continuing resolution.
  - Clarified "codification" for continuing resolutions.
  - Reviewed proposed committee responsibilities / duties continuing resolution wording changes that had been submitted by all committees.
- Art has prepared documents that capture the recommendations of the Constitution Task Force in preparation for presentation to the Council:
  - Constitution Task Force
  - Existing Committees
  - Shared Ministry Committee
  - Continuing Resolution "Codification" Clarification
  - Committee Responsibilities / Duties Constitution Wording
  - Constitution Task Force Recommendations
- The "Proposed Committee Responsibilities / Duties" for each committee were sent to the committee chair for final review before forwarding to the Council. Seven out of nine committees have responded.
- It is planned that Constitution Task Force recommendations will be brought to the Council at its September 10, 2018 meeting.



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### Discipleship Ministries Interim Plan: President Scott Lester

- In July, President Lester facilitated an email vote of the Council. A majority of the Council responded.
  - The Council **unanimously approved hiring Pastor Drew Yoos as Interim Director of Discipleship Ministries for a one-year contract from August 15, 2018 to August 15, 2019.**
  - **A compensation package for Pastor Drew Yoos as Interim Director of Discipleship Ministries was unanimously approved.** The compensation package does not exceed budgeted amounts for this position.
- Pastor McEachran reviewed the path for onboarding and orientation of Pastor Yoos. A copy is attached to the original of these minutes.
- President Lester reviewed the main points of the mailing that will be sent to the congregation on August 14. A copy is attached to the original of these minutes.
- President Lester noted that hiring an Interim Director of Discipleship Ministries allows the Discipleship Ministries and Human Resources Committees time to evaluate the position for future needs and permanent staffing.
- It was noted that this was a Spirit-led process and fully supported by the Northwest Washington Synod.
- Pastor McEachran led the Council in a prayer of thanksgiving for this path of ministry.

### Council Initiatives: President Scott Lester

- Vision: Dick Szabo
  - Two congregation visioning workshops were held on July 13 and July 14. These workshops focused on the uniqueness of Saint Andrew's and on the Mission of Saint Andrew's. Approximately 65 people attended. Good discussions took place and the Vision Initiative Team collected a lot of great input.
  - The Team has begun to synthesize the comments and ideas collected, working toward formulating clear and concise statements.
  - Dick Szabo distributed a consolidation of comments and ideas collected from the workshop on "Uniqueness". A copy is attached to the original of these minutes. It was noted that "Local Predicament" means local "environment" or "situation". "Collective Potential" refers to the resources and talents that Saint Andrew's possesses to use in our mission and in the community. "Apostolic Esprit" refers to the "spirit of the heart": what are Saint Andrew's passions for ministry and mission? The next step is to use these ideas to synthesize a statement that identifies how Saint Andrew's can be most effective in glorifying and serving God and making and nurturing disciples.



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- Dick Szabo distributed a tentative plan for the Visioning Process. A copy is attached to the original of these minutes. Dick noted the stretch goals of the plan: to complete the “vision frame” (Mission, Values, Strategy, and Measures) by the Annual Congregation Meeting in January 2019, present the first two statements to the Council at its September 10, 2018 meeting, and hold a “Values” workshop for the congregation in October 2018.
- Pastor McEachran noted that this process builds on Saint Andrew's already firm foundation of mission. He noted that his role in the process is to provide context.
- Discipleship: President Scott Lester
  - Scott noted tasks for the Discipleship Initiative Team include:
    - Join in the Visioning effort, especially reaching out to talk to those who may not have responded to the Mission Assessment Profile survey (from Fall 2017) or attended the Visioning workshops.
    - Work with the Discipleship Ministries Committee on a pathway to support Pastor Yoos and the Committee
  - A meeting of the Discipleship Initiative Team (Ben Johnson, Vanessa Wilkie, Dick Swaisgood, Beka Gordon) will be scheduled soon.
- Stewardship: Karen Grams
  - The Stewardship Committee and Initiative Team are pleased with the congregation's response to “Lattes for the Lord”.
  - The committee is working on a theme to be used for Fall 2018.
- Building: Dick Swaisgood

A meeting is planned with the Building Initiative Team (Scott Lester, Art Gurtel, Dick Swaisgood) and Wolf Saar of VIA Architecture to review progress and current status. Then next steps will be planned.
- Pastor McEachran distributed a “Parish Paper” publication that discusses “community conversations in church” noting that it may contain helpful ideas for the Initiative Teams as they proceed with their work. A copy is attached to the original of these minutes.

### Proposed Council/Committee Chair Summit:

Pastor McEachran recommends postponing this summit. There was agreement.

### Committee Updates: President Scott Lester

- Outreach and Servant Ministries: Dick Szabo

The food collection item for the Corner of Blessing in September will be butter. This will help



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Hopelink's clients have butter in time for holiday baking. A small refrigerator will be placed in the Corner of Blessing to collect the butter.

- Refer to the Council packet for committee reports.

**Other/New Business:**

None.

**Adjournment and Benediction:**

Pastor McEachran closed with a benediction.

Meeting was adjourned by President Scott Lester at 8:51 pm.

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hegedus

Council Recording Secretary