

Church Council
Immanuel Lutheran Church
December 10, 2019

Members present: Pat Hammer, Beth Hansen, Paul Savereide, Twylla Vickmark, Tami Ehlers, Dana Connett, Jeannie DeRemer, Cari Larsen, Bill Greep, Scott Anderson, Jerry Martin, Pastor Paul Nelson, Erin Heilman, Jody Ebert, Tammy Vergeront, Ben Orton

Thanks to Twylla for treats.

Pastor Paul offered devotions.

Bill Greep related his faith story.

Secretary's report: Addition of an explanatory sentence about the memorial fund structure, also added Kris Heinzen to the members ending their first term. Clarification added re: the budget process. Dana Connett moved to approve minutes with changes, second by Scott. Passed.

Financial secretary: Twylla –actual giving in November was \$116,512.00, we sit at 84% of budget. Attendance in November was up over last year by 85.

Treasurer: Tami- Strong giving in November exceeded budget by \$17,000, resulting in year to date giving \$9,000 ahead of budget. Total expenses are slightly below year to date budget. Building Up- received \$51,227 in November; we have received \$262,075 out of \$633,663 pledged. Tami summarized ongoing progress in the Building Up projects. The shower has been removed from the list of improvements due to ADA regulations.

Staff reports:

Tammy has been working with the audit committee. They are taking their recommendations from the Synod's audit guide. End of year is always a busy time. Approval signatures are important, please check your mailboxes.

Pastor Paul had three baptisms, one wedding and one funeral since the last council meeting. Thirteen households joined Immanuel in November. Adult Faith Formation in November was well attended, interesting discussion on Breaking Down Walls. Forty people attended the Service of Remembrance. Wednesday evening Advent services are taking place in Fellowship Hall. January will see a seven-week study for couples, the Seven Principles of Making Marriage Work. Every Day Discipleship is the worship theme for Lent.

President's report: Beth acknowledged an email from Martin about a new Family Ministry Task Force. This was created to review our current family ministries, in response to a survey sent out to a group of families. Beth and Martin have been discussing online viewership and its impact on attendance.

New Business: Cari Larsen said that Families Moving Forward had a difficult week here over Thanksgiving to the extent that we will not host in January. Kim, Cari and a couple other volunteers will meet with FMF to relay their concerns.

Budget: Projected actual income for 2019 of \$1,225,261 will leave us with a projected deficit of \$2,946 (if expenses in December match budget). This would be covered with cash reserves. Stewardship numbers for 2020 -\$710,000 from 210 pledges, the amount per pledge has increased. Pledges are still coming in. This does not include people who give electronically and have not yet pledged.

Discussion followed re: options for balancing 2020's budget. Council members were urged to look at their budgets and cut where appropriate and workable. We were reminded of the increase in the cost of health insurance in the coming year, up 4% to \$146,000, as well as a 2% increase in salaries and increase in repairs and maintenance due to an aging physical plant.

Council members were reminded to submit their individual reports for the Annual Meeting report by Sunday, January 5. Beth urged them to share their vision and their part in the mission of Immanuel in their reports.

Erin moved to adjourn the meeting. the motion was seconded by Twylla.
The motion passed.

Pat Hammer, council secretary