

MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
DECEMBER 18, 2018
PARISH LIFE CENTER
7:00 PM

2018 Church Council Members: Craig Blois(Stewardship, Oversight), Joan Brundage* (Financial Secretary, Property), Brian Edwards* (President, Oversight), Betty Ertel (CDC Representative), Ivan Fernandez(Learning), Allison Johnson(Caring), Stan Patscheck(Fellowship), Susan Prosser(MET, Personnel), Tina Riley(Worship & Music), Keith Selbrede* (Treasurer, Budget & Finance, Endowment), Denise Sobolik* (Vice-President, Service & Missions), Cecelia Travick-Jackson* (Secretary, Adult Education), Norman Williamsen, Youth Representative (to be announced), Meredith Smith (Director of Ministries), Jim Bessey* (Pastor). *Executive Committee

Call to order: The Christ candle was lit and the meeting was called to order at 7PM by President, Brian Edwards

Council Members Present: Craig Blois, Joan Brundage, Brian Edwards, Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, Tina Riley, Keith Selbrede, Denise Sobolik, Cecelia Travick-Jackson, Norman Williamsen.

Council Members Not Present: Betty Ertel, Ivan Fernandez, Stan Patscheck,

Staff Members Present: Jim Bessey (Pastor), Meredith Smith

Also Present: Robert Jackson

Devotion: Susan Prosser read from 2018 Advent Devotional from Luther Seminary, based on Mary's Song (The Magnificat) Luke 1:46-56 emphasizing acts of service.

Listening Post: Susan Prosser

- † RE: Serious Financial Situation at Church - Someone needs to take charge of making a plan to get us out of current financial situation and back on track.
- † RE: ELCA Social Positions – Don't want a new Pastor who is too much of an activist. Our congregation should decide on what issues to pursue. Mount Cross is somewhat conservative.

Approval of Minutes:

Denise moved to accept as amended the minutes. A second was received from Craig. Motion passed.

Reports: Please read all reports online:

Highlights from Pastor Jim's Report

- † Thanked the music staff and the choir ensembles, Meredith Smith and Katie Robinson and the children of Mount Cross for the gift of "A Poetic Christmas". Their efforts to make this a memorable presentation are deeply appreciated. It was a wonderful evening, followed by a lovely dessert buffet.

Highlights from Meredith's Report

- † Our first joint youth group with the Camarillo United Methodist Church was a hit. We plan to do another in February and that time we will also invite St Columba's Episcopal Church

Treasurer's Report- Keith

- † Pledge income is 90% of budget (\$25,409 short)
- † Total income is 86.9% of budget (\$55,292 short)
- † Expenses are 97.8% of budget (\$9,793 under)
- † Reserves of \$26,925 are 75% below target of \$110,000

2019 Budget recommendation: There was a full and lengthy discussion regarding the 2019 church budget.

- † There was extensive discussion regarding the Wednesday evening confirmation/ Bible study dinners and how the preparer of those dinners is paid. The suggested cost of the dinner is \$95.00 per person or \$250 for a family. This takes in the entire annual confirmation program. The person's salary was paid by a donation and does not impact the church budget. The question remains should the person be identified as an independent contractor or an employee. The chair of the personnel committee will be asked to attend the next council meeting to discuss more fully the church's liability regarding insurance, workman's comp, and how it would affect salary.
- † Keith moved to balance the 2019 budget with funds from the endowment committee. The motion received a second from Norm. Motion passed with 8 yes and 1 abstention.
- † Craig moved to begin a second pledge drive out reach to the entire congregation including those who have already pledged. This would be a pledge drive sponsored by the Church Council. The motion received a second from Denise. The motion passed unanimously.

Call Committee Update: Susan

- † The Committee has had two meetings.
- † The co-chairs of the Committee are Becky Riley and Bill Stoll.

- † On January 13 there will be one service at 9:00AM followed by a 2 hour workshop and lunch. The purpose of the workshop will be to identify and focus on the most important traits and characteristics of a new pastor.
- † For those who cannot make this meeting, we have set aside an alternative date of February 24.
- † More information will follow.

Pavilion Project Update: Brian

- † An anonymous donor will give \$3,300 toward the patio pavilion windscreens if the congregation matches the donation. To date the church has received \$2,725.00 toward the matching funds.
 - † There is a balance of \$4724.72 in the pavilion project fund.
 - † Another anonymous donor will give \$5000.00 toward the pavilion project.
 - † The windscreens cost \$16,538.62
 - † The patio pavilion project fund is short \$788.00 for paying for the windscreens.
- After much discussion it was decided to proceed, in faith, with the purchase and installation of the windscreens.

Denise moved to accept the contract from

Southern California Screen Co.

4525 E. Industrial St 4E

Simi Valley, Ca 93063

With Brian signing the contract

For Rainier Power Shade-Series 4- Desert Sand-Black with Somfy Wall or Hand held remote for a total of \$16,535.15. Price includes 50% at the time of order. Delivery takes 2-4 weeks with final payment at completion. The motion received a second from Craig. The motion passed with 8 yes votes.

Other:

- † Annual meeting January 27th at 4PM, potluck following
- † Tina Riley resigned from council to refocus on family
- † St Jude donation in honor of Jackson Soyster-at the beginning of the year. The question was raised if money is available in service and mission for this donation. More information will follow in the newsletter.
- † Karen Cherry offered an article to every council member entitled What Should a Governing Board Be Good At? By Dan Hotchkiss.
- † As staff appreciation- Allison moved to close the church office from December 26-December 28 for staff members with full pay not to affect their vacation time. This offer is extended to Pastor Jim, Meredith, and Sheri as long as someone is available for emergencies. Pastor Jim, Meredith and Sheri are to work out emergency availability. The motion received a second from Craig. Motion passed with 8 yes and 1 abstention.

Adjourn with Lord's Prayer at 10:40 pm

Looking Ahead: Next meeting 7pm January 15, 2019

January Devotions- Joan Brundage

December Listening Post- Cecelia Travick-Jackson

Respectfully submitted
Cecelia Travick-Jackson Recorder

DEVOTIONS			
February	March	April	May
Pastor Jim	Stan Patscheck	Tina Riley	Norman Williamsen
June	July	August	September
Allison Johnson	Cecelia Travick Jackson	Craig Blois	Betty Ertel
October	November	December	January (2019)
Susan Prosser	Keith Selbrede	Susan Prosser	Joan Brundage
Council Listening Post (1st Sunday of the Month, on the patio, between services)			
February	March	April	May
N/A	Stan Patscheck	Joan Brundage	Cecelia Travick Jackson
June	July	August	September
	Tina Riley	Craig Blois	Denise Sobolik
October	November	December	January 2019
Allison Johnson	Keith Selbrede	Susan Prosser	Cecelia Travick-Jackson