

Augsburg Immanuel Lutheran Church

Quarterly Voters Meeting

October 15, 2017

Chairman Curt Meseke called the meeting to order. Pastor Frazee led those present in prayer and devotion.

Minutes from the July 16, 2017 voters meeting were printed in the August newsletter. There was no further discussion of the previous minutes. A motion was made to accept the minutes as posted, seconded, and approved.

Members:

Voting members: None

Communicant members: None

Transfers:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in: None

Releases: None

Treasurer's Report:

The quarterly report was presented. No questions were asked of the treasurer. A motion was made to accept the report as presented, seconded, and approved.

Marlin Schukar, Jerry Schukar, and David Kruenegel were appointed as tellers for the election of church officers.

Elders' Report:

- Everything is going well
- Meeting monthly and on an "as needed" basis.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor discussed the celebration of the Reformation and the unchanging word of God and of God's salvation. He also discussed his duties performed on behalf of the church, as well as his duties as vacancy pastor for St. Peter. A copy of the Pastor's full report is included with these minutes.

LYF:

- Youth meetings continue and all is going well.
- A recent trip to Dairy Queen was enjoyed by all, and the group's efforts to help with the recent FunFest at Gatch Lake were commended

Trustees' Report:

- During a recent insurance audit several things were pointed out that need to be updated within the church and parish hall.
 - Those things that have already been completed include updating to GFCI outlets in the parish hall kitchen and to repairing all exit signs in the parish hall.
 - Those things that still require our attention are update of an electrical service box fuse in the church, sidewalk repairs near the church and parish hall, and storage clean up in the furnace areas of both buildings.
- Fire extinguishers throughout the church, parish hall, and parsonage have all been checked and are up to date.
- The stove in the parsonage has been replaced.

Sunday School:

- Attendance has remained consistent over the quarters, but more are always welcome.
- Any volunteers for teachers to help with Sunday school are also always welcome.
- Christmas program planning is underway, and many of the older youth in the church have volunteered to help with this year's program.

Bible Class:

- With Pastor serving the St. Peter vacancy, the Bible class has shifted focus from Genesis to a series of films discussing the Mormon Church and its beliefs. The series shows the contrast of their beliefs with that of our Lutheran faith, and the downfall associated with false prophets.
- Since the St. Peter vacancy will be filled by the end of this month, the class will return to its former format with studies of the Bible. All are encouraged to attend.

Finance Man: No report.

Sexton:

- When researching current cemetery fees and policy, it was determined that they had not been updated in quite some time. A discussion was held about burial fees for people to non-members of the Augsburg Immanuel Lutheran Church, but are active members of another LCMS church. A motion was made to increase those fees from \$150.00 to \$500.00. The motion was seconded and approved.
- The fee for a non-member, non-active LCMS member, or a non-Lutheran will remain at \$1,000.00.
- *Note: An active church member is defined as attending church and receiving the Sacrament at least four times per year.*

Old Business:

Tractor Sunday

The group acknowledged the success of the Tractor Sunday, and thanked Albert Wefer for his efforts in making this event happen. The possibility of another event for 2018 was discussed with final plans to come later in the year.

Cemetery Sign

A preliminary report was given. Due to the full agenda for this quarter's meeting, the sign bids were not presented to the council or the voter's meeting, and was tabled for a later meeting.

New Business:

Red Cross Blood Drive:

The Red Cross has approached the church about using the parish hall for blood drives. Many questions were asked concerning cleaning and maintenance of the parish hall, and the Red Cross's ability to cover these expenses. The matter was tabled until more information about the ability of the Red Cross to cover our concerns are answered.

Elections:

- Chairman: Marlin Schukar
- Vice Chairman: Curt Meseke
- Secretary: Steve Hickerson (volunteer)
- Elder: Denny Lange
- Treasurer: Scott Torbeck (volunteer)
- Assistant Treasurer: Jerry Schukar (volunteer)
- Trustee: Gene Schaal
- Sunday School Superintendent: Bob Williams (1st year of 2 year term)
- Assistant Sunday School Superintendent: Greg Schaal
- Finance Man: Denny Lange (volunteer)
- Financial Reviewer: Doug Stein (outgoing elder appointed)
- Parish Hall Director: Scott and Karen Torbeck (volunteer)

A motion was made to accept the new officers, seconded, and approved.

Communion:

A motion was made to change Communion from weekly to every other week (the first, third, and fifth Sunday of each month). The motion was seconded, and a written vote was taken. The motion passed. Beginning on November first the new Communion schedule will be in effect.

Anniversary Committee Cushion Project:

After taking into consideration the survey of the congregation, the installation expense, and cleaning and maintenance expenses, a motion was made to vote on the installation of the new cushions. The motion was seconded, and a written vote was taken. The motion failed.

Pastor's Salary:

After considering and discussing district guidelines for salary and the Concordia Plan insurance and retirement funding, a motion was made to maintain the Pastor's current salary level while funding the increase to the Concordia Plan. Due to the Pastor's marriage and the addition of a dependent, his wife Anna, the Concordia Plan expenses will increase approximately \$800.00 per month. The motion was seconded, and a written vote was taken. The motion passed.

At the conclusion of the voting the tellers were thanked for their work. A motion was made to release the tellers, seconded and approved.

Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund:

A discussion was held to consider the creation of a standalone fund for the maintenance of the cemetery. The creation of a cemetery trust was discussed to ensure the viability of the cemetery as a separate entity from the church. All present thought this was worthy of looking into further. The process of setting up this fund will be examined and a report will be presented at the next meeting.

Special Collections:

The following special collections were submitted for the fourth quarter:

- Thanksgiving: Lutheran World Relief
- First Advent: Armed Forces Ministry
- Second Advent: Lighthouse Pregnancy Center
- Third Advent: LAMP Ministry
- Christmas Eve: Lutheran Child and Family Services of IL
- Candlelight Service: Lutheran Child and Family Services of IL
- Christmas Day: KFUE
- New Year's Eve: The Lutheran Hour

A motion was made to accept the special collections, seconded, and approved.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and approved. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Steven R. Hickerson.