

Shepherd of the Valley Council minutes
December 15, 2020

Present: Pastor Benolkin, Sherry Scheider, Brian Carpenter, Bob Tukker, Phil Smalley, Barbara Pearson, Rhoda Fox, Justin Abel, Julie Johnson, Pearl Fortman, Steve Larsen, LaVon Downing and Karen Dolan.

Absent: Dave Musser

The meeting was called to order by president Sherry Scheider at 7:08 P.M.. Pastor Scott opened the meeting with a reading from Acts followed with prayer .

Steve made a motion to accept the November minutes, Barbara seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Pastor's Report : Christmas Eve service will be at 5:00P.M. There will be a service on Christmas Day at 09:30 A.M. in collaboration with the Northern Illinois Synod. The pandemic is still an issue and the future uncertain.

Old Business: The search for a church secretary is still in progress. The use of a temp agency maybe more costly than first anticipated. Bob Black has sent word to the Synod network without any response at this time.

Preschool Closing: What the church can do for the community following the preschool closure is still in progress.

New Business:

1). Financial Program: Pastor made a motion to table this until the February meeting. Rhoda seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2). Budget: Pledges are still not in. It is difficult to get a budget together without all the pledges. So far our pledge total is \$87,000 which is far shorter than last year. Expenses continue to go up but due to the PPP our church balance continues to be okay. Phil presented a preliminary budget. The Pastor made a motion to accept Phil's presentation of the budget, Rhoda seconded. The motion carried. As council members, we need to reach out to those who have not been joining us for Sunday worship as some don't have the devices to do so and need encouragement to connect by phone.

3). Annual Meeting: The Executive Committee will work on forming a notification letter to be sent out to the members as to when the meeting will be held. Reports will be emailed to those with email and hard copies will be made for pick up at the church. The meeting will be held January 31, 2021 following Sunday worship. The meeting will be recorded. We need an accurate count of those attending, and we need at least 10% of the congregation in attendance. Pastor will be responsible for Pastor's Report, Christian Education, Personnel and Ralm. Phil will be responsible for statistical along with Pastor, Finance, Endowments and Stewardship. Sherry will be responsible for Altar guild and Worship and Music. Preschool will be done by Julie. Lavon will contact Kris Tukker for Social Committee. Dave will do Outreach Committee and promote zoom with phone access. Steve will do Property Committee. There will be no reports for Fellowship, Library and Youth committees due to the pandemic. The Nominating Committee will submit their report as will the Auditing Committee.

The reports are due in by January 6,2021 via gmail to office@shep61.org.

Phil will conduct a tutorial forum on January 24 2021 after church service on zoom and chat to help people navigate the annual meeting.

4). Pastor made a motion to designate \$18,478 as housing allowance for Pastor Scott and family for 2021. Phil seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Electronically submitted.

Property: They are investigating a spotlight for the cross.

Worship and Music: Electronically submitted

Rhoda brought up the idea of touch less communion for consideration for the Lenten season and Easter.

Phil made a motion to adjourn, Steve seconded. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be January 19,2021 at 7:00P.M.

Pastor closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

LaVon Downing

