

AGENDA
WEST NIDAROS LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL
*******February 19, 2023 *******

- 1) Call to order
- 2) Devotions: Chris Langloss
- 3) Stating Our Mission Statement Together
- 4) Recognition of Visitors:
- 5) Additions to Agenda/Approval
- 6) Treasurer's Report
- 7) Financial Secretary's Report
- 8) Secretary's Report
- 9) Report of the Property Manager
- 10) Unfinished Business: (old business)
 - 1.
- 11) New Business:
 1. Task Forces
 2. Endowment Cap
- 12) Report of the Pastor
- 13) Report of the Dir. of Faith Formation
- 14) Report of the Dir. of Youth and Family
- 15) Report of the Dir. of Music
- 16) Reports of the Ministry Teams
 - a) Administration - Sheryl
 - b) Christian Education -
 - c) Missions and Outreach -
 - d) Local Ministry - Cheryl, Becky
 - e) Membership – Janna
 - f) Properties – Dean, Jared, Chris
 - g) Stewardship – Mike, Theresa
 - h) Worship & Evangelism - Ben
 - I) Endowment - Jennie
- 17) Other Reports
- 18) For Your Information
- 19) Thank You:
- 20) Next Meeting: March
Next Ministry Team Meeting:
- 21) Adjourn/Prayer

Financial Secretary's Report – Sent separately

Treasurer's Report – Sent separately

Director of Faith Formation Report February 2023

Jessi Rakness

Planning/Organizing

- Planning children's messages for worship.
- I still watch the Facebook live stream comments during worship on Sunday mornings. I also let Pastor Jared know if anyone sends me a prayer request.
- iFaith meets after school every Wednesday from 4:00-5:00. We play games, have a snack, and have a bible lesson. We have about 13 students attend each week and have A LOT of fun!
- Sunday school
 - I send a weekly email to the Sunday school teachers about the upcoming Sunday, supplies needed, and upcoming milestones.
 - We begin in the sanctuary each Sunday with music (THANK YOU, Elise!) and lesson introduction. Then students go to their classrooms for their lesson.
- I lead our 3 year old/parent/grandparent Sunday school class on the first Sunday of each month. We have 8-10 students each month. It's a great group! It only takes until February for the students to start talking. ☺
- GIFT Sundays:
 - Our January GIFT Sunday was a bible lesson and crafts on January 15th.
 - Our February GIFT Sunday was in collaboration with Health Ministries on February 12th. Deb Whipple taught us about healthy eating and moving our bodies. We had a healthy snack and then went outside to play on the snow hills in the south parking lot. It was a beautiful morning and SO much fun! THANK YOU to Deb Whipple, Jill Rye, and Health Ministry for planning a wonderful event!
 - Our last GIFT Sunday for the Sunday school year is March 12th.
- Nicole Finnesand has graciously volunteered to be on the Board of Christian Education. As a Tri Valley teacher with 2 young boys, she will be a great asset to our team!
- Milestones: 1st grade students lead The Lord's Prayer at the 10:30 worship service on January 29th. Fifth grade students will lead The Apostle's Creed on February 26th.
- The Board of Christian Education will meet with the ministry teams on February 15th to plan the remainder of the Sunday school year, summer ministry, and next year.

Other Ministry

- Writing letters of recommendation for scholarships for students.
- Wrote the annual report for Christian Education/Faith Formation.
- Pastoral care
- Writing council report and info for The Reporter.
- Communicating with Pastor Jared, Elise, Board of Education, students, and parents.

“So deeply do we care for you that are not only willing to share the gospel of God, but our very selves because you have become so dear to us.” 2 Thessalonians 2:8

Worship and Music

Church Council Report – January 2023

Submitted by Kristi Stelter, Director of Worship and Music

Worship Service Schedule—

January 1 – 9:30 Service of Lessons and Carols (Kristi gone)

January 8 – 8:30 & 10:30 Traditional worship

January 15 – 8:30 & 10:30 Traditional worship

January 22 – 8:30 Traditional; 10:30 Contemporary worship

January 29 – 8:30 & 10:30 Traditional worship

Ongoing responsibilities include:

- Prepare schedule of organists and vocalists
- Select hymns and worship songs for all worship services
- Communication with vocalists and organists regarding worship schedule, any rehearsal times and upcoming events
- Keyboardist for services led by contemporary worship band
- Provide vocal leadership when needed
- Communications with Worship Committee
- Prepare monthly report for review by the church council
- Assist Pr. Jared with worship schedule and general worship planning

Responsibilities specific for January include:

- Provided worship accompaniment January 22
- Attended Annual meeting January 22

Church Council Report – January / February 2023

Submitted by Adam Guthmiller, Interim Youth Director and Student Pastor

Our Youth programming, events, and fellowship has continued as normal as we have entered into the new year. The winter weather has continued to be a factor – as we have unfortunately had to cancel some Wednesday night activities due to it. A couple events to make note of:

- High School Youth Group has continued to take place on Wednesday nights. Our attendance has been steady throughout the year. We continue to start with lessons / discussions – and we have the opportunity to talk about Worship, the Lord's Prayer, the work of Jesus Christ. One of my goals with our High School Youth Group is to continue to attempt to drive students towards Worship – as this is where the center of our Christian life is.

- Our High Schoolers who are attending Rainbow Trail in the Summer are teaming up with WELCA during the Lenten Season to host a diner prior to worship at West Nidaros. These will be on March 1st and March 22nd – the two Wednesdays that West Nidaros is hosting Lenten services. The money raised during these events will help our High Schoolers pay for their trip – please support if you're able.

- Confirmation has continued on alone as Pr. Jared and I have finished teaching on the Lord's Prayer. The time that we have is extremely short – especially when weather gets in the way. We are continuing to encourage Worship attendance now by our Confirmation students for their required Sermon Notes.

Please keep our youth and their families in your prayers.

In Christ,
Adam Guthmiller

Annual Meeting 2022
West Nidaros Lutheran Church, Jan. 22, 2023

Call to Order: Mike B at 11:42am

Opening Devotions: Pastor Jared

Welcome

Approval of Agenda: Motion/Second to approve agenda: Chris L/Jennie C motion carried

Approval of Minutes of January 2021 Annual Meeting Motion/Second: Jennie/Jared Q motion carried

Approval of Reports

Pastor Jared: Thank you to the congregation for the last year of ministry. It was nice to get beyond the pandemic, but still face challenges. Thank you for being here and being a part of our congregation. We voted last year to undertake a BIG project that's been on the wishlist for decades. We finished it! How many other congregations can do that so quickly? We have it all paid for, a little to raise for the 10% benevolence. Wow! We completed 900,000 in maintenance and improvements. We are a DEBT FREE congregation. We look forward to the ministries ahead. We have a lot to celebrate. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your pastor.

Director of Faith Formation - posted in our booklet - no questions.

Interim Director of YF Ministry/Intern Pr. Director of Youth & Family Ministry Director of Music Ministry - posted in our booklet - No questions.

Property Manager - Chris L: Report includes properties committee's work as well. Looking at the past year, projects we completed- proud of all of those things! We got a lot accomplished. Looking at the next year and years, the HVAC system is aging quickly, we have had a lot of repairs this winter. There are some furnaces that may be ready to go, etc. We have line items in the budget for those things, but something that is on our radar. A priority for next year: getting the HDR wall taken care of. Bid was about \$30,000 last year, probably gone up over the last year. We don't want water problems down there! Covers old classrooms and HDR. That is the biggest priority, a need more than want. Another thing is the stained glass windows: they need to get vented out, so they don't bow or break. They are the biggest insurance item we have, but can't truly replace them or even repair them to the originals. Lastly - thank yous to: properties, sexton, cemetery, everyone who comes to help out when needed.

Financial Secretary - posted in our booklet. No questions. Lynette: Pg 18, actual YTD, December number is actually \$383,553.34

Treasurer - posted in our booklet. No questions.

Audit Committee - reported that everything was in balance, records are in order for this last year. No questions.

Ministry Teams - all reports attached in booklets. No questions.

Administration

Congregational Care

Mission & Outreach

Worship & Evangelism

*Donna: Endowment committee had 15 requests for about 41,000, approved 26,000 of requests. Average of 4% of the previous 12 quarters can be given.

Support Committees

Cemetery/Church Grounds

Organizations - all reports attached, no questions.

Altar Guild

West Nidaros WELCA

WELCA Treasurer

Replica Church

Hanson-Oyen Cabin

Motion to approve all reports presented: Tim T/ Jennie C. Reports are approved.

Elections

Nominating Committee Report: Nicole Q: One person to nominate: Andy Carpenter for council. Any other nominations? Motion for Nominations to cease/Cast unanimous ballot: Darin/Jared Q

Election of Council Members - Complete

Election of Nominating Committee - all volunteer to stay on one more year. Matt, Nicole and Dale.

Election of Audit Committee - Jeff O, Terry, Tim. Tim will stay on. Volunteers? Jeff will stay on, look for one more person possibly.

Election of Synod Assembly Delegates - Last year: Cheryl Anderson and Lynette. Lynette will do it again. Any others? June 2-3, 2023. In Sioux Falls at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Cindy.

Motion to add Cindy to assembly delegates: Jennie/Jared Q. motion carries.

Election of Endowment & Memorials- Trish will stay on, Joan will stay on as well.

Presentation of 2023 Budget - Not much to point out, we decided to add a 35% subsidy for staff positions. Brought us to a good projected income/expense ending. Salary increases - we did 4% last year, this year 4.5% increase proposed.

Unfinished Business

New Business

External Audit/Finance - church is growing well, money associated with that growth - we have been discussing an external audit. It is a lot for a few people to handle. We don't want to put ourselves in a situation where we would be not handling money professionally. We want to protect all people who handle incoming/outgoing money. Council wants to implement procedures that safeguard everyone involved. We want to reach out and form a task force with people with related expertise and knowledge. Looking for individuals to STEER a team, not to complete this audit themselves. Pastor Jared: Lynette, Vince and I have discussed that with all of our streams of income, we want to make sure everything is handled properly. We want to make sure the proper procedures are in place so that no embezzlements could ever happen. Lynette does a TON of work with our big projects, and our large income/expenses, it would also look at how can we operate our treasurer position in the best way. Maybe it is external. This is what we need from this task force. Any volunteers or anyone interested? Let us know, or let us know your ideas. Talk to Pastor, Elise, Mike, Lynette. We will be looking at getting this going soon.

Future Ministry Opportunities - Pastor Jared - Lots has changed after the pandemic. Things in our community, things in how people interact. Crooks is growing

FAST, with lots of homes, apartments very close to us. Baltic is growing in a similar way. How do we reach out to those who are new to our community? It is up to us to reach out and invite people. Needs in our community are also growing. Services for families - preschool, childcare? Task force to identify ministry opportunities for our church that may be new and different. Ways to reach out and be a leading congregation in this area. As we regather and emerge from COVID, it is exciting to reach out and invite in visitors. It would be great to find ways that we can support people who are moving out into our area and provide ministries to them in new ways. Suggestion: Preschool? New ways to do this.. We need a group of people to think about the future and plan reaching out opportunities. We are a congregation that leads, so let's lead and reach out. We can impact our community by sharing Christ's love in new ways. Questions/Comments: New committee? Yes - a new task force just to look at opportunities that we can start at WN. Cheryl: numbers of people we would want on the task force? Pastor: Let's gather names and then go from there. 5-6 people are interested in helping out that were present at the annual meeting. Comment: Gary B: Been here 60 years - seen a lot over the years. We supported families over the Vietnam war and they have never forgotten us. Sioux Falls has a lot of immigration, we have a lot of opportunities to support others. Talk to council members if you have comments/questions.

Approval of 2023 Budget - Motion and second to approve the budget for 2023: Jennie C/Trish O. Any discussion? None. Motion Carries.

Closing Prayers: Pastor Jared

Adjournment: Mike B at 12:23am - Motion/Second to adjourn: Kent/JoAnne Motion Carries