Church Council May 18, 2025

Members Present

* MaryBeth Ostrom
* Scott Snyder
* Mindy Kingsley
* Matt Anderson
* Dave Kiehne
* Gretchen Olson
* Ashley Haugerud
* Pastor Bockoven
* Janet Ewalt
* Zach Haugerud
* Clayton Schoepski

**Call to Order – Mary Beth, President 6:37 pm**

**Devotions:** Janet led devotions

**Code of Conduct**

**Any additions to the agenda:**

Archasearch Zoom call at 7:00 pm

Social Media help for the church

**Committee Reports:**

**Stewardship**

**Worship and Music**

**Property**

**Children, Youth, Family**

**Adult and Family**

**Endowment**

Reports reviewed by the council.

**1. Consent Agenda:**

**a. Approval of May 2025 Minutes**

Change the next meeting from July to June.

Motion to approve by Ashley, 2nd by Dave. Motion carried.

**2. Financial Report**

**Adjusted Bank Balance is $65,238.43**

**Revenue vs expenses year-to-date is $762.50**

**Giving was up in May compared to the last 3 Mays.**

**3. Old Business**

**a. Council Retreat Update**

The pastor was thinking of a Sunday for the retreat and all of the council should be there. September 21st is a day that we will ask the Synod to help with a council retreat.

**b. Sim Sound equipment**

We are still waiting for the parts from Sim Sound and once they come in, we will schedule a training time for streaming.

**c. ArchaSearch Zoom Meeting**

David Frank met with us from ArchaSearch. They build searchable archives. Discussed that we want to digitize baptisms, church membership, marriages, confirmation, records, etc, and make it searchable. The system will not be able to read cursive, which most of our records are in. We could make an index for each page so we could make it searchable.

They would come in, digitize with photos, build an archive and we would get a year to have access. After that, $1,500-$2,000 annually for them to host.

They could digitize and then we would just have the images without the searchable tools. That cost would be $500-$1,000 per book was Mr. Frank’s estimate.

Council has said that we want to digitize our records, and while his presentation was amazing, it’s not exactly what we are looking for.

We discussed hiring somebody to do data entry of all of our books. We will table this issue for the next council meeting.

**d. Social Media**

Ashley said that she would help the Secretary with social media and different social media platforms.

**4. New Business**

**5. Children/Youth Directors Report**

VBS is August 1-3rd. MaryBeth said that if anybody would like to help with decorating or snacks to let her know.

On June 20th, we will have a pool party at the Preston Pool from 6-8 pm weather permitting. Greenfield will cover the cost of the families and kids who want to swim if they don’t have a pool pass.

**6. Pastor’s report**

The Bishop was reelected.

In May, we averaged about 100 people at Worship. Lots of things were going on in May.

Pastor had his surgery and is doing well.

The Holy Experiment will be reviewed in June. Prairie Union is very grateful for having Pastor for two Sundays a month. Pastor is willing to renew for the Holy Experiment for another 6 months.

IT is coming tomorrow to look at why the copier isn’t scanning.

July 20, after service, to July 26th, Pastor is requesting vacation time to work at a Youth Camp.

Pastor is requesting Aug. 1st off for his brother in-laws wedding.

July 6th is our next outdoor service. Another church might advertise to come to our outdoor service because their pastor is gone on vacation.

Motion to approve July 21-26 and August 1st for vacation

Motion by Janet, 2nd by Janet. Motion carried.

Council will not meet in July.

**7. Adjourn/Lord’s Prayer**

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Submitted by Secretary Matt Anderson