

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Eggertsville
Church Council Meeting
7:00 p.m. on November 10, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Scott Fierle

PRESENT: Pastor Steve Biegner, Janell Andersen, Sue Epstein, Nicholas Hazlett, Debbie Howe, Bill Niblock, David Schunak, Bobby Simpson

EXCUSED: Cheryl Gillen, Sue Renken-Mintzer, Vern Stein

DEVOTIONS: We discussed an article "In-Person vs. Online Attendance: 3 Suggestions to Solve It" in *Church Growth Magazine*. We prayed for guidance in shining God's light in the world.

MINUTES OF RECORDING SECRETARY: Pastor Steve moved to approve council minutes from October 20. Debbie seconded and the council approved unanimously.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS: There is a continued stream of thank you notes for WNY Church Unleashed.

TREASURER'S UPDATE AND BUDGET PRESENTATION:

We have submitted application for forgiveness of PPP loan. The fact that we had encouraged electronic giving has been helpful at this Covid time.

Bill highlighted some of the differences in the 2021 budget; many of these differences reflect our changes in worship and gathering during the pandemic. He has added expense lines for WNY Church Unleashed and internet costs. There is a new line for NYS withholding. The budget has reduced the budget for altar flowers, housekeeping, and building repair. Health insurance premium is going down in 2021. Bill asked Pastor Steve about the budget for marketing and outreach materials.

Bill broke down electrical expenses into three categories: church, property lights, and Olin House. We are paying approximately \$1000 for electrical lights on the property boundaries. Pastor Steve has already asked Mike Brenda and Lonny Walter to look into replacing old lights with LED lights.

Bill also answered questions regarding how he designates money from different missions. Bill keeps a counting sheet indicating how donations are directed. Money coming in for WNY Church Unleashed is divided among three congregations.

The final budget of \$300,000 will come from the Finance Committee and needs to be available to the congregation by December 1 for the congregational meeting on December 13. Debbie motioned to accept the budget, Sue E. seconded, and council approved.

PASTOR REPORT:

Pastor shared a story on the importance of inviting people to church.

Amherst is now in the yellow zone for Covid and probably heading to orange.

The Daily Bread Food Truck has hired Katie as a manager/scheduler.

NEW BUSINESS:

Steve nominated and Debbie seconded Bill Niblock as treasurer, and Janell nominated and Nick seconded Debbie Howe as President. She agreed to serve until March. Three council members were absent and there were concerns about the responsibilities of the officer roles. Pastor Steve motioned that we vote on the two positions tonight, Sue Epstein seconded. The Council elected Debbie Howe as President and Bill Niblock as treasurers. He will ask all other council members to prayerfully consider being Secretary or Vice President.

OLD BUSINESS:

David is researching the equipment changes involved in adding a second camera. He also reminded us that if we have two cameras we need a person doing more than just turning the camera on and off; we need a producer choosing which camera shot to stream.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Barb motioned to adjourn and Debbie seconded.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, December 8, 2020

CONGREGATIONAL: Sunday, December 13, 2020

Respectfully submitted, Deborah R. Howe, Recording Secretary

Cheryl Gillen (2018-2021)
Sue Renken-Mintzer (2018-2021)
Vern Stein (2018-2021)

Janell Andersen (2016-2019, 2019-2022)
Nicholas Hazlett (2016-2019, 2019-2022)
Debbie Howe (2015 for Ruth Lampe, 2016-2019, 2019-2022)

Sue Epstein (2020-2023)
David Schunak (filled in vacancy of Jeff Meirs 2017-2020, 2020-2023)
Robert Simpson (2020-2023)