

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Eggertsville
Church Council Meeting
7:00 p.m. on August 25, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Scott Fierle

PRESENT: Pastor Steve Biegner, Janell Andersen, Scott Fierle, Cheryl Gillen, Nicholas Hazlett, Debbie Howe, Bill Niblock, David Schunak, Barb Walter

EXCUSED: Sue Renken-Mintzer, Vern Stein

DEVOTIONS: Pastor shared what first responders face on their job all the time. Fire Church lets them know that they are making a difference and that God makes a difference for them. We offered prayers for all who are taking care of health concerns and procedures that were postponed because of Covid.

MINUTES OF RECORDING SECRETARY: Scott moved to approve council minutes from July 14. Barb seconded and the council approved unanimously.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS: We are receiving communications about renting the church space.

TREASURER'S UPDATE:

We have retired old credit cards.

Payroll twice did not issue payroll, but now it is corrected and up-to-date.

PPE loan is still undecided.

Scott Fierle and the Finance Committee will reach out with a letter describing our church's work in these past months (25 baptisms!) and asking for offerings.

The regular treasurer report will be ready second Tuesday of next month.

PASTOR REPORT:

Steve reflected on how re-formational and transformational church work has been in these past six months.

Resurrection will have a Holy Closure service at 3:00 p.m. September 27. Pastor Miranda will work for Community of Good Neighbors, a new mission on the East Side. The church building will be sold. Pastor Steve and Pastor Chick are going to be sure that previous and current Resurrection members are linked to each other and to a new church home.

We will be launching the weekly service on Saturday at 8:00 a.m. rather than Sunday at 10:00. According to Facebook metrics, more people will watch it and they will still be able to participate on chat.

Pastor has checked with individual groups to see how they want to meet in upcoming months. Men's Club will meet by Zoom. Comforters will not meet in person. Mary Wolf will reinstate Bible Study at St. Paul's in Advent. AA and NA groups will continue to meet weekly at our church.

We have had requests by outside groups wanting to rent church space for pupil-pods and for Just for Kids (a child care center needing more space). The Council agreed that we can rent space as long as we (1) build in extra cleaning costs, (2) our building use is linked to whether Amherst

School District is open or closed, (3) renters sign an agreement with a waiver, and (4) we have the option to Opt Out if the situation changes.

OLD BUSINESS:

David reached out to his colleague who is no longer able to install the AV equipment. He will explore installing it himself.

NEW BUSINESS:

We discussed ReOpening. Pastor reported that churches who are opening are getting 25-30% of what their typical attendance has been. Debbie reported from the ReOpen Team that the numbers for Wednesday Devotionals ranged from 10-24. Both Debbie and Pastor Steve have observed that people do not follow “grocery store” protocol without prompting and monitoring. Council members reported that people are very comfortable with the digital options. Council decided to try an outside service on September 13. They also recommended that the ReOpen Team write a new congregational survey.

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

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Respectfully submitted, Deborah R. Howe, Recording Secretary