

**Ascension Lutheran Church of Navarino
Council Meeting Minutes Sunday, October 18, 2015**

Present: John Wudtke, Al Meiers, Darrel Klemp, Pastor Marcia Sabin
Absent: Dennis Fuerst, Dave Rohrer, Lisa Wollenberg
Guests: Arnie, Carol and Russell Kloes, Sue Poole, Everett and Sue Olson

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 am by President Darrel Klemp with a devotional prayer entitled "Lord Give Me Wisdom."

The minutes of 9-20-2015 minutes were approved as printed on motion by Wudtke/Meiers.

Pastor's Report: One round of visitation to all on the visitation list has been completed.

Treasurer's Report: The printed Treasurer's Report Synopsis prepared by Treasurer Fuerst was reviewed. Giving/income remains higher than budgeted so far and expenses are less than budgeted so far. He expects that without full-time pastoral expense for the remainder of the year, \$17,072.84 of the 2015 budgeted expenses will not be spent and recommends that we return the \$1,400 withdrawn from the InFaith fund to that fund, double or triple the youth confirmation funding, and return other funds used to pay bills when short income to the appropriate funds/savings accounts; also to possibly increase scholarship fund dollars to provide more earnings for the scholarships. His report was approved on a motion by Meiers/Wudtke and by consensus authorized Fuerst to return funds to the appropriate accounts. Scholarship funding will be addressed at future meetings.

Old Business:

- Community Dinner and Food Pantry will again be cooperating to provide Thanksgiving dinner during November.
- No NALC newsletter since 9-20-2015 meeting, but a copy of the North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS) newsletter is on the table in the narthex.
- Website updates are slowly being worked through. Updates for mission relationships with Next Step ministries, Martin Luther Church in Latvia, Haiti's Children Inc./Gladys Mungo and International House of Prayer intercessory prayer ministry are in progress.
- Projects in progress: the storage shed concrete approach may need to wait until after winter, but shelving should be completed yet this fall; fellowship hall flooring material and installation quotes are in process and the final two quotes should be received soon; church sign project is pending.
- Rohrer is working on the cleaning charges/wedding policy.
- One additional lawn mowing is expected for this fall.
- Interim pastor status was discussed. Pastor Sabin has offered that she will serve Ascension at least through the first of the year if desired and will be happy to participate in the ecumenical Thanksgiving gathering. Council approved of both.

New Business:

- Klemp was contacted by Ryan Schwarz from the NALC regarding tax exempt inclusion. The NALC legal counsel researched the congregation's status and confirmed that the Articles of Incorporation will also need to be amended. Apparently these had not been amended initially when the congregation name changed from Norwegian Lutheran Church of Navarino to

Ascension Lutheran Church of Navarino on 6-26-1960. NALC legal counsel will be working on language to assist us to update the Articles of Incorporation. A copy of our newly amended constitution has been sent to the NALC.

- Arnie Kloes gave a report on the recent meeting of the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan NALC Mission District that he attended on our behalf. Dr. Roy Harrisville stepped down as dean of the district and Pastor Craig Nehring has taken over as dean. There is a new NALC congregation in New London; Living River Lutheran Church. There was also a focus on disaster preparedness at that meeting. Checklist templates were provided for individuals, families and congregations by the NALC Disaster Response Task Force as well as a Congregational Disaster Response Preparedness Resource Inventory including such items as food and clothing banks, toilet and paper goods pantries, cleaning supplies, meal preparation facilities, shelter and sleeping arrangement possibilities, etc. It is suggested that each congregation prepare a disaster plan.

Next council meeting is set for 11-15-2015 at 8:00 am in the church library.

We adjourned at 8:58 am on a motion by Wudtke/Meiers.

Respectfully submitted,

Darrel Klemp – Council President