**BTLC Council Meeting Minutes**

**January 7, 2021**

**Present:** Pastor Julia, Debbie Buerkle, Becky Frese, Gemma George, Steve Harvey, Becky Laverell, Ron Riter, Natalie Rosebrock, Jacque Scott, Barb Terland and Deb Silverstein via Zoom.

President Barb Terland called the meeting to order. Deb Silverstein led devotions.

**Examples of fulfilling our Mission:**

* Singing Silent Night outside on Christmas Eve
* 15 kids and several adults met for Youth Group
* The On-line Christmas Eve Worship Service
* Approximately 30 people attended Church on Sunday, January 3rd.

**Council Meeting Minutes:** Ron moved to approve the Minutes from the December 10, 2020 meeting and Gemma seconded the Motion. The Minutes were approved as written.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Debbie Buerkle received a bill from The Pioneer for advertising. She asked if it should be paid out of the 2020 budget for 2021 budget. Ron made a Motion to pay the bill from the 2020 budget and Gemma seconded the Motion. Motion carried. There was a discussion on possibly advertising more in 2021. Gemma made a Motion to increase the advertising budget (line #22 Evangelism in Expenses) $300.00 raising the budget from $1200 to $1500. Jacque seconded the Motion. Motion carried. Debbie reported that spending for 2020 was under budget.

Barb brought up whether the Treasurer should be bonded (as stated in an old job description). Pastor Julia will contact the Insurance Broker to see if it is necessary.

Ron moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report for December and Becky Frese seconded the Motion. The Treasurer’s Report was approved.

**Committee Reports:**

**Pastor Julia’s Report:**

* + Pastor Julia reported that she performed 1 wedding, 1 baptism and 8 funerals in 2020.
  + She organized 183 videos.
  + She stated she only used half of her vacation time
  + She used only a small portion of her Continuing Education.
  + She expressed her concern about COVID and the vaccination schedules. We still need to stay safe and stay on the cautious side of things. She had no expectations for the future at this time.

**Music & Worship:** Pastor Julia anticipates the Music & Worship Committee meeting sometime next week to plan for Lent.

**Education:**

* Pastor Julia had an informal meeting with Debbie Buerkle and made her Co-Chairman of the Education Committee.
* Bible Study has 3 chapters left in the Gospel of Mark. Then they will take 1 week off to regroup and then study some hymns.
* Pastor Julia conveyed that she received great feedback regarding Victoria’s participation in the videos for Advent. She plans to do a kid’s video once a week during Lent with possibly Victoria’s help

**Mission Committee:** There is $2681.57 in benevolence funds to be distributed. It was

suggested by the Council to give:

* $1500.00 to Christikon
* $590.78 to the Sheriff’s Department to be used at their discretion
* $590.79 to Community Mental Health

Jacque made a Motion to except the Council’s suggestions for benevolence distributions and Natalie seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

**Property Committee:** Ron stated that there is nothing to report at this time. Ron inquired about how the lawn caretakers are paid; once a month or per occurrence. It was specified per occurrence. A big thank you to Ron and Judy Riter for cleaning up the leaves.

**WELCA:** Nothing to report.

**President’s Correspondence:** Barb had no correspondence to review at this time.

**Old Business:**

**Employee Job Descriptions:** The Executive Committee will plan to meet again soon.

**Potential Council Members:**  Potential candidates are Al Buerkle, Ken Nelson, Jim Bratvold and Les Schiele.

**Congregational Meeting:** The Annual Meeting will take place on January 31st after Worship Service in the Sanctuary. 26 voting members are needed to make a quorum. On-line participants can make comments and ask questions, but cannot vote. They can, however, volunteer for a Committee on-line.

**New Business:**

**Committee Volunteers:**

* **Christikon Committee:** Ron will ask Einar Stene if he wants to remain on the Committee.
* **Endowment Committee:** Current members are Jodi Christensen, Cheryl Bratvold and Al Buerkle
* **Property Committee:** Current members are Ron Riter, Al Buerkle and Leonard Walla.
* **Montana Synod Assembly:** The meeting will take place, on-line, June 5th and 6th. Steve Harvey and Natalie Rosebrock volunteered to attend.
* **Fund Raising Committee:** It was decided to eliminate the Fund Raising Committee.

The next official Council meeting will be Sunday, January 31st, after the Congregational Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Silverstein