Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
825 Golf Ave SW
Pine City, MN 55063

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MN 55063
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JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN THE BACKYARD OF OUR REDEEMER!!

Worship at 9:00 a.m.
SUNDAY JULY 5th!
Bring your lawn chair!

We will continue to live stream.
To view, go to our home page (orlcpc.com) and click on the Facebook link and click on posts. If another window pops up click on "not now."

Our Vision:
Shining God's light into the darkness, bringing hope where there is despair, healing where there is hurt.

If you no longer wish to receive this publication, if you prefer to receive it via email, or if you wish to read it on our website, PLEASE contact the office at orlcoffice@gmail.com or call 320-629-2985. THANK YOU!

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"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."
Matthew 11:28-30

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
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Pine City, MN 55063
(320) 629-2985
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This is a monthly publication.
Deadline for articles is 4:30 pm on the third Monday of each month.

Shining God's Light

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
July 2020

Pastor's Corner

Summer greetings to you and yours at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church!

Wow, what a busy couple of weeks we've had getting acquainted and making plans for future ministries! I am SO grateful for the outpouring of well-wishes and the warm welcome I have received since starting as your new pastor. **Thank you** to the call committee for your tireless work organizing and interviewing. Thanks to the church council and the congregation for your prayerful discernment in the past few weeks. It is an honor to serve as your shepherd in this place and I look forward to meeting you in whatever way/shape/form that takes in the coming weeks! Now, on to a couple of important announcements to lift up for you:

1) We now have a **Smart Team** in place with a plan to reopen the church in "phases." Be sure to read the enclosed article about this on page 10. **Phase 1** starts this month with outdoor, in-person worship on Sunday mornings at 9AM and Wednesday night church at Robinson Park. For Sundays, we'll meet on the grassy field outside the church building. Plan to bring your lawn chairs for worship. Physical distancing will be encouraged and masks will be provided. Holy Communion will be served as you return to your cars at the close of worship on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month. Phase 1 also includes the option for church committees to meet indoors with small groups. No outside groups who use our building will meet for the summer. Regarding weddings & funerals, outdoor or graveside services will be encouraged. However, indoor services will be allowed with up to 50 attendees and physical distancing measures in place. No serving of food will be allowed in the building during this time. **Phase 2** begins in September if we continue to see a downward trend in the spread of the pandemic. This includes the option of indoor worship with up to 125 participants with continued physical distancing and some loosening of restrictions. We will be watching recommendations from public health officials as well as what the local school board recommends as we consider resuming Sunday school and youth programming. Livestreaming of worship services will continue throughout the coming months for those who do not feel well or choose to continue worshipping with us from home via Facebook. And again, if you aren't feeling well please stay home and help us keep everyone safe.

Cont'd

2) **Cause for celebration!** As some of you have already heard, the congregation council is planning a "Burning of the Mortgage" to thank all of YOU for your generous commitment to this congregation during the pastoral interim. As you may recall, when Pastor Fred left and the church entered a "contract" with Pastor Alvin, it was decided to put away funds each month to pay down the mortgage (some $37,000 or so). I am happy to announce that you've DONE it! It is no small thing to mark these moments with deep JOY and GRATITUDE for all you have accomplished during these past months and years. Thank you for helping to pay down the debt and for your ongoing commitment to supporting the future ministries of Our Redeemer!

3) Finally, I want to invite **your prayers, input and ideas** to the table. These are, indeed, historic times we are living in. There is no doubt that people will look back on the year 2020 to see how we left our mark on history. In times of crisis the church is especially suited to be an advocate for the hurting, be a catalyst for change and be a force to bring the community together for moral deliberation. We are here for YOU in your time of need. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any of our church staff or leadership. On the other hand, we also have work to do on behalf of OTHERS who are hurting and need healing. I invite you into those spaces where we can both "lay down our burdens" and "take up our cross" in the name of Jesus.

May God go with us in all the days to come!

In Christ,
Pastor John

Contact the Church if you have an emergency. If you know the extension number dial that, otherwise for:

Pastor John Stiles **Press 1**
pastorjohn.orlc@gmail.com

Leigha Lange, Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
Press 2
youthorlc@gmail.com

Diane Vander Venter, Church Office
Press 0
orlcoffice@gmail.com

Casey Tyberg, Teacher, COJ Preschool
Press 4
orlckidz@gmail.com

OR READERS

We hope to meet the end of August (Tuesday, August 25) at 6:30 at ORLC.

Books will be available in the church office at the end of July.

Please stay safe, healthy and well read. If you have questions please call me 320-223-3181.

Thanks, Christy Koch

Dear ORL Church,
We are so thankful for your warm welcome of us as well as your desire to commit to supporting us as a congregation. We wanted to send you our sending organization's (Pioneers) link which allows you to set up monthly giving so it will automatically deduct each month and goes directly into our Pioneers account (pioneers.org; "Give to missionary" and use the Project Code #112861).

However, you can of course choose to do it by mail. Please write out the check to: Pioneers Act # 112861 Then mail it to: 10123 William Carey Dr, Orlando, FL 32832 Either way, Pioneers will send you a receipt and ensure that your gift is tax-deductible.

Thank you again and please let us know if you have any further questions.
All for Jesus, *Tim & Maria*

Dear Friends,

It is with a heavy heart that I must tell you, due to my ongoing health issues and the wishes of my family, I will no longer be able to chair the Community Thanksgiving Dinner, which is free.

Should any one of you hear the "call" to take on this mission, please know I will be happy to work with you, train you and give you all of my notes. It is a big job, but you are never alone.
I am hopeful that Our Redeemer will still remain the location for the dinner. Of course, the church council will need to approve this, especially if the chair person is not a member of our church.

I will be sending a copy of this note to all the other churches in Pine City to not only inform them of my decision, but to offer them a chance to take on this mission.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jeannie Johnson from the PC Evangelical Free Church, Karla Blake of First Presbyterian Church, Betsy Blaufuss of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Verna Carpenter of Zion Lutheran Church, Caron Peters and Diane Vander Venter of Our Redeemer, and a special shout out to Julie Samuelson of Hands for Pine City. Without your help, along with ALL the other civic minded people of Pine City, we would not have been able to pull it off.

Thanks and God bless you.

For the Love of Jesus,

Trudy Wood
320-629-1199
trudywood@msn.com

COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE MONTH REPORT

What is happening in our world? How does God want us to respond? The year 2020 has certainly brought worldwide changes never before seen. The media, good or bad, brings the whole world right into our homes. And yet the Covid virus has brought us into isolation from other people and from our church community. The protests threw many back out together in a highly emotional reaction to long-held injustices and pain. We ask, "Where is God in all of this? What is happening to us? And when will we return to normal?" Perhaps our question really should be, "God, what is happening and what do you want me to do about it? And what do you want ORLC to do about it?" No matter what "normal" we want to "return to", that "normal" will most likely never be the same. We will grieve some of what we have lost. The physical touch, hugging in church, passing the peace, is probably not going to happen for some time and maybe for some of us, not again in our lifetime.

BUT: God is THE REDEEMER!

Where is He redeeming this time? What new doors is He opening to ministry within our church, our community, and the world? I don't have an answer to that question. But each of us should be looking to God for the answers, individually and as a church. What doors for ministry are opening? Where do we need to open our eyes to see the needs of others? And in what ways does God want you and me to be a part of the solution? We each have abilities. No part of the body is insignificant or useless. None of us is "on the shelf". We can touch others with little effort, in our attitudes, by our smiles, by our prayers, by our actions of kindness. We can be examples to the world as Christians in bringing the fruits of the spirit (Galatians 5:22) love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. And perhaps God is calling us to greater ministry. God has designed us to think creatively. I encourage each of us to be in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to lead us to a greater walk, a greater outreach and a greater impact on the world. Share your ideas and stir up those gifts of the spirit within yourself and within the body of Christ. ORLC and the world needs you. We can't let this time be wasted. God is redeeming the time. Where is your part in His plan?

Another question is "What's new at ORLC?" What is happening with reopening ORLC? Some feel it's too fast, some too slow, but we have organized "the smart team" to make plans for going forward and to conform to expectations from the Synod and the government. Members were chosen for their gifts – Pastor Stiles, Greg Lea (Church Council) Leigha Lange (Youth), Doug Pieper (Worship Committee) and Kris Clementson (Medical.) That plan is detailed elsewhere in the newsletter.

A new Church Council was elected on May 31st. I am the new council president, Ashley Espeseth vice president, Greg Lea secretary and Diane Lombard treasurer. Council members are Erin Anderson, Eric Wicktor, Gail Mattison, Kyle Nascene, Wayne Hansmann, Brent Weiss, Rich Elliot, and John Schille. Please let us know your questions and concerns. Focus areas this year will be reopening the church while trying to maximize ministry and continuing to address health and safety of attendees in church and activities. We are hoping to give more structure to our committees to facilitate better communication between council, committees and the congregation. We have developed a task force to identify policies and procedures and document, and/or review these for ORLC. Jim Koppen is heading this task force. Members include Ashley Espeseth, Rich Elliot, John Schille, Greg Lea, Barbara Christensen, Pastor Stiles and myself. If you have concerns to address any of the policies and procedures within the church feel free to contact any one of us.

And finally, I encourage you with Philippians 4:8,9 "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. … put it into practice. And the God of all peace will be with you."

Kris Gross

Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministries, Leigha Lange can be reached at 320-629-2985 ext. 204 or via email at youthorlc@gmail.com

As we continue through summer and begin to open up we are beginning to plan different events for children, youth, and families! Please be watching the website, Facebook, Instagram, and your emails for different summer events.

Vacation Bible School is happening but it will look different this year! This year VBS will happen at night and will be family style. All the fun will be happening outside. Parents please be watching your email for more details and to register! We are excited that the McAvoy's will be here and we can have some fun together this summer.

Faith on Fire will be for Jr high and Sr high students this summer! We will play games, hang out, have a chance to meet Pastor John, and more! Parents: make sure to watch your email for more information and how to sign up!

"Tag You're It" - Lets have some fun and play a social distance game of Tag. Be watching your yard for a sign with instructions. We hope you will play along!

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Randy and Pam Hinze, and the family and friends of Deleanore Hinze. Please keep the Hinze family in your prayers over the coming days.

Our sincere condolences to the family of Wayne Baker. Please keep Diane and the family and friends of Wayne in your thoughts and prayers in the days ahead.

Our deepest condolence reaches out to Elmer and Anna Doenz at the loss of their daughter, Michelle. Please know that you are held up in prayer during the difficult days ahead.

We extend our sympathy to Aimee and Curt Kubesh and family at the loss of Curt's mother, Joan Kubesh. Please keep them in your prayers at this time.

OUR REDEEMER FAMILY AND FRIENDS

TO PRAY FOR: Pat Hass' sister Marilyn, Shirley Erickson Janet K (Michelle V's sister), Rodney Kish, Abby Skluzacek, Angela Zack, Chris Tindal, John Fedder, Norm Opheim, Sara Helseth, Jeff Kuzel, Rosie Thorson, Carole and Carl Anderson, Bill McCartney, Ashley Jenkins, Gail Rosenbaum, LaVonne Nascene, Brian Holler, Paulette Renwick, David Pixley (brother-in-law to Pam Wiener), Rod Benson, Pat Turgeon, Marilyn Arnold, Nicole Trujillo, Karen Blake, Liz Olson, Steve Martini, Sandy (daughter of Marilyn Arnold), Jim Jacobson, Tonia Johnson, Betsi Moffatt Olson, Tom Davis, Patricia Taft, Laurie Madison, Lynnette Simertz (Leigha's friend's mother), Bonnie Abbott, Karen Koecher (sister-in-law to Julie & Lee Wiener), and anyone else that comes to mind.

PRAY FOR ALL WHO SERVE THIS COUNTRY!!

CONTINUING TO PRAY FOR: Margaret Menigo, Deb Hagfors, Aine Casey (Judy & Larry B's grandchild), Evie R (great-granddaughter of Donna & Ron Pingree), Steven M (brother-in-law to Jeff D).

Reminder: Names are not removed unless the office is notified

JULY SERVICE SCHEDULE
(We want to be ready....)
Ushers
9:00 worship time: John and Merrilee Eberhart/Tom and Kristi Davis
Altar Guild: Evie McAvoy

Acolytes		Council Representative for the Month	Readers and Communion Helpers
5) OUTDOOR WORSHIP BEGINS in the BACK YARD AT 9:00 A.M. LIVE STREAM continues **Pastor Stiles is the acolyte**	No calendar	Kris Gross	LIVE STREAM Bonnie Menigo Communion: John & Merrilee Eberhart, Jeneice Carter
12) LIVE STREAM @ 9am			LIVE STREAM Reader: Liz Olson
19) LIVE STREAM @ 9am			LIVE STREAM Reader: Bill Woischke Communion: Bill & Shirl Woischke, Marietta Jacobson
26) LIVE STREAM @ 9am			LIVE STREAM Reader: Jim Koppen

If you are interested in being a reader or communion help please call Trudy Wood At 320-629-1199

Healing Prayer Ministry

The team will meet in the Prayer Garden behind the church on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 PM. Anyone is welcome to this discussion. Topics this month will include providing personal prayer, involvement with Picnic Church and the August newsletter.

Healing Prayer Team is there for you

The wooden crosses by the front door and in the prayer garden have a prayer request box. If you want the team to pray with/for you, freely leave your request in one of these boxes. Complete a prayer request and put it in a sealed envelope leaving it in the box. Members of the team will gather in the prayer garden on Wednesday morning to join with your request.

The prayer cross is still available for all in the sanctuary. Remember if you want your request to be private, with you and God only, place the slip in the center of the cross. Also if you want others to pray for you, put the prayer slip in an appendage. These requests are collected monthly. The private prayer requests are never read but burned and the other requests are prayed for by members of the healing prayer team at the monthly meeting.

Many members of ORLC and others in the community will pray for any requests within the day of the request. Text requests to Kris Gross at 651-236-0511.

Lean Into Your Faith

Are you leaning? Is your faith a source of encouragement and strength? If so that is very good but not the end of the story. We have the gift of faith for ourselves but also for others. Did you hear Pastor John's message on June 14th? One of his points is we are called to Christ that we might be sent out, be an apostle. How is one sent out during a time of "stay home if you can?"

Members are invited to a community prayer walk on July 6th at 6:30. There have been many people walking the community. How does the walk become a 'prayer walk'? While you walk the neighborhood you pray. Pray for each home that God's peace will fill their walls, that they have sufficient for their needs, that all are safe, that each member of the home is fulfilled in their calling and talents. Notice community things in your neighborhood. If there are businesses, pray for their success and clarity of service to the community. If there are public buildings like schools, churches, libraries, play areas pray for safety and protection especially as they reopen to public use. Even notice empty areas and pray as the Spirit inspires your thoughts, e.g. pray for nature.

prayer WALK

If you are a walker invite any walk partner to join you July 6 in praying for the walk route. If you are not a walker take a stroll around your block July 6th for the purpose of prayer. If you choose, meet at Robinson Park with a mask to join others in a community prayer for Pine City. The gathering will be informal and people will leave the park to pray for neighborhoods. Other churches in the area will be invited to also engage in a community prayer walk. If you are walking on July 6th at 630 and see others walking greet them with "Amen" to affirm their prayer.

Keep attentive, watch and pray, what will the power of God released through faith do for the community. Feel free to report any observations during the prayer time on July 6th and in the weeks to follow.

Come Lord Jesus be our guest as we walk and pray separately but together.

MEMBER SHARING PAGE

Thank you for sending these! I love today's bible verse.

AMEN and AMEN and AMEN! So thrilled by the excellent parking lot meeting! So comforted by the response of citizens to the illegal rioting and looting of the multi-cultural areas of Minneapolis damaged by [those] trying to take down this nation!

So pleased we have Pastor Stiles coming to share his wonderful skills, thoughts and biblical interpretations and messages with us!

Blessings on your day and all of us at Our Redeemer!

Thanks for sending the daily verses for us. I think it helps center us and keeps us thinking about each other even when we don't see each other.

Expectations of Pastor John Stiles and the Congregation of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

The Pastor will:

A. Preach and teach the Word of God.
B. Preside at worship and administer the sacraments according to the Word of God.
C. Provide pastoral care to all members of the parish according to their needs, visit as necessary and assist in coordinating visitation by lay personnel, officiate at weddings, baptism, confirmation, funerals, and uphold the members in prayer.
D. Give pastoral leadership for the meetings, activities and organizations of the congregation including but not limited to, equipping members to participate in the life of Christ's church as a part of the priesthood of all believers, guiding the congregation toward a more comprehensive lay leadership, and advising the congregation on changes to the organizational structure that may need to be addressed.
E. Be responsible for the oversight of recording of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, funerals, and the oversight of the membership rosters.
F. Develop a working knowledge of the members of the congregation in their walk of faith.
G. Report the status of the congregation to the Synod.

The Congregation will:

A. Commit to the Gospel by faithful participation in worship, learning, and fellowship activities.
B. Support the ministry of Our Redeemer through prayer for our congregation, community and through active service and financial giving as you are able.
C. Accept the pastor and his family, uphold them in prayer, and accord them love, respect, and good will.
D. Support the pastor and lay personnel at baptisms, celebrations of Holy Communion, and other rites of the church.
E. Actively participate in the life of the congregation, learn and put into pract6ice what it means to be a member of the priesthood of all believers, and share the Word of God with others.
F. Maintain open communication with the pastor and staff.
G. Study the Word and grow in Christ.
H. Be a LIGHT to the world by inviting others to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.
I. Be COURAGEOUS in striving for peace and justice through all the world.

Physical distancing must be practiced at all events in phase 1 & 2
All CDC guidelines will be followed
Will establish cleaning process for meetings at church
Church will remain locked during day but opened for pre-arranged activities

Phase 1: Starting July 5, 2020

Worship - Goal Start July 5th
One service at 9:00
Outside services for July and August if weather permits
Move inside if weather does not permit
Max people allowed will be 125
Service will be the same format as the live stream
Will also continue live streaming (need to determine if Wi-Fi will work outdoors)
Pews marked out for seating in every other pew if inside
Highlight in monthly newsletter to Congregation
Video on how to enter, worship, and leave
Usher duties will include seating attendees and exiting attendees if inside
Communion on normal schedule (1st and 3rd Sundays) - Words of Institution during the service and then people will receive communion on their way out
Flag to stake out where people will sit if outside service
Bring your own chair to outside service
Wednesday in the Park ("picnic church") service starting July 1

Funerals -
Graveside to be encouraged but will do services in church for immediate family of no more than approximately 50
No food
Prefer recording of songs - but will work with a soloist (Plexiglas barrier)
Mark off pews; X on the floor for viewing of the casket
Usher people in and out
Keep a log book (Funeral home director recording names - or someone is appointed to do that)
People are to be seated after viewing or are asked to go outside for visiting
Ask people to wear masks
Bulletins yes - ushers hand out

Weddings -
Outside weddings encouraged but will do services in church for immediate family of no more than approximately 50
No food
Prefer recording of songs - but will work with a soloist (Plexiglas barrier)
Mark off pews
Usher people in and out
Keep a log book
Ask people to wear masks

Group Meetings -
Meetings that are church related can happen
Need a process for how meeting organizers will clean after they meet
Meetings can happen within the fellowship hall & youth room
Meeting organizers need to keep record of attendees

Outside groups are not able to meet within the church building yet

Phase 2: Hoping to start in the fall (target date Sept. 1, 2020)

Worship - Move worship into the building for phase 2
One service at 9:00
Service will be the same format as the live stream
Will continue live streaming
Max attendees of 125
Pews marked out
Communicate change to Congregation
Video on how to enter, worship, and leave
Usher people in and out
Communion - Words of institution during the service and then people will receive communion on their way out
Look at Thursday Night Service

Funerals - We would look at increasing the number of people allowed in phase 2
Graveside continues to be encouraged
No more than 50 people within the church building
No food
Prefer recording of songs - but will work with a soloist (Plexiglas barrier)
Mark off pews; X on the floor for viewing of the casket
Usher people in and out
Keep a log book (Funeral home director recording names - or someone is appointed to do that)
People are to be seated after viewing or are asked to go outside for visiting
Ask people to wear masks
Bulletins yes - ushers hand out

Weddings - We would look at increasing the number of people allowed in Phase 2
Outside weddings continue to be encouraged
No more than 50 people when in the church building
No food
Prefer recording of songs - but will work with a soloist (Plexiglas barrier)
Mark off pews
Usher people in and out
Keep a log book
Ask people to wear masks

Group Meetings -
Meetings that are church related can happen
Need a process for how meeting participants will clean after they meet
Meetings can happen within the fellowship hall & youth room
Meetings need to keep record of attendees

Outside groups meeting would have the possibility to meet within the building with process and procedures

Children & Youth - Be watching what the Minnesota Department of Education with how to proceed for child & youth activities for the 2020-2021 school year

Communicate with Children of Joy about their fall plans

Phase 3:

Yet to be determined but more back to normal depending on Covid-19 status in State.
Worship, Children & Youth, Funerals, Weddings, Group Meeting, Food, etc.

FINANCIAL UPDATE **May 31, 2020** **MONTH #8 of FISCAL YEAR 2020**

Thank you! for your generosity, love and trust. Even though we do not get to meet in person [July 5th!] there are still bills to pay. We appreciate everyone continuing to help take care of our church. The council, committees and staff that use the funds given to Our Church try our very best to honor your monetary gifts in a mindful and financially sound way that is pleasing to God and that helps us to:

SERVE GOD TOGETHER!

Currently on the finance committee is Steve Schmidt (RRI Consulting), Diane Lombard (Treasurer), Sue Osterdyk (member), Kristi Davis (member). If you are interested in learning more or being on the finance committee, please let us know.

Our next meeting is scheduled for July 7, 2020 @ 5:15 – please let us know if you are interested in joining us.

May

Income:	$21,110	- General Offering Income
	45	- Designated Mortgage Income
	577	- Other General Operating Income
	$21,732	- TOTAL Available for Expense Payment

Expenses Supported by General Giving
$ 17,189

May

Account Balances	$ 2,000	- Property Improvement Reserve
	17,417	- General Operating Fund
	63,418	- Restricted Funds
	72,417	- Endowment Fund
	$ 154,962	- TOTAL CASH & SAVINGS

LOOK at this….

$37,072 Mortgage Balance
$39,819 Pastoral Compensation Savings Whoop! Whoop!

It's time to blow our horns!! When we first started looking for a pastor the funds that would have paid a Pastor's compensation (minus what was used towards substitute pastors and finding a pastor) was kept track of separately and would be applied to the mortgage once we had a pastor in place. That time has come: We can and will be paying off the balance owed on the mortgage. Glenn Westing and Sue Osterdyk are coordinating a Debt Free Celebration!! "Watch" for details.

Respectfully
Diane L, Treasurer

ALTAR FLOWERS!!!

Isn't it nice to see them in our virtual worship services? If you would like to sponsor flowers please call the office (or if you have but forgot when, please call the office)!! You can pick them up the Monday following or even Sunday morning around 10!

Here are blank dates:

July 19
August 2, 30
Sept 27
All of October, November and December

GIVEPLUS is our eGiving tool to help make contributing from your smartphone or iPhone easy! Download the free app when at Our Redeemer to begin or visit us on our web page orlcpc.com. You can also stop by the office for more information or help getting it set up. Your financial gift allows us to continue our mission throughout the year. Thank you!

GIVEPLUS
A VANCO COMPANY

Church Council Meeting
Thursday, June 11, 2020

Present: Kris Gross, Ashley Espeseth, Diane Lombard, Greg Lea, Erin Anderson, Gail Mattison, Kyle Nascene, Wayne Hansmann, Brent Weiss, John Schille

Absent: Eric Wicktor, Rich Elliot

Staff Present: Pastor John Stiles, Leigha Lange, Diane Vander Venter

Other Attendees: Steve Schmidt, John Oare (outgoing President)

Meeting called to order by President Kris Gross at 7:00 p.m.
Devotions by Kris Gross

Agenda approved with two topics added relating to the mortgage update and authorized check signers

Welcome to all the new council members and a thank you to John Oare, outgoing President.

Letter of Call update by John Oare. All paper work finalized. Motion to accept the final paperwork by Greg Lea and second by Diane Lombard with the motion carried. Copy of Expectations of Pastor Stiles and the Congregation attached.

Staff and Committee Reports:
Office Administrator Report by Diane Vander Venter with handouts to new council members. Security/Door Buzzer was discussed and referred to the Building Security Committee. Suggestion was to communicate a brief update on the process of opening the church up after the Virus Lockdown in the Monthly Newsletter. Greg Lea will include in these minutes as well as put something in the bulletin/monthly newsletter. Diane also reported the starting of the Wednesday Service in the park starting July 1, 2020.

Leigha Lange reported on the VBS plans. See report in office file. Motion was made by Wayne Hansmann to accept the request for Leigha Lange to have the Sunday, June 21, 2020 off and with a second by Pastor John Stiles. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Diane Lombard and Steve Schmidt reported on the financial status of the church. See handouts in office file. Motion was made to accept the financial reports by Gail Mattison and a second by Brent Weiss. Motion carried

Discussion on the financial status included the Mortgage/Line of Credit Balance and the ability to pay that debt down to zero based on the savings of monies between the Bridge Pastoral Costs and the 2019/2020 budgeted Pastor's salary and benefits prior to the call of Pastor Stiles. This is a great accomplishment for the congregation! Motion to pay off the debt was made by Diane Lombard and a second by Wayne Hansmann. Motion Carried.

Check Signing Authorizations will be updated for the new officers and remove the old officers. Ashley Espeseth made a motion to have checking account signers updated by removing John Oare and Jay Samuelson and adding Kris Gross and Ashley Espeseth. Kyle Nascene seconded and motion carried.

Greg Lea reported to the council on the Smart Committee meetings to date regarding the policies and procedures for reopening the church for worship, funerals, weddings, youth activities, Pre-school, meeting use of the church, etc. This committee is tasked with establishing the steps for opening the church and presenting them to council for approval. The committee members are Pastor Stiles, Leigha Lange, Doug Pieper (Worship Committee), Kris Clementson (medical professional), and Greg Lea (Council Rep). They are working diligently and plan to present proposal to council within two weeks.

Council members were reminded to sign up for appropriate church committees to act as liaisons to the church council.

Council received an update on the need to eventually purchase a new freezer for the kitchen. Carolyn Tuckner is doing the research and checking on costs.

Kris Gross discussed the ongoing effort of the committee to update or establish policies and procedures for the church. That effort will continue for the next few months.

Pastor's report was presented by Pastor John Stiles. He is excited to be here and looks forward to meeting everyone in the weeks and months to come as we start to reopen the church. He also reviewed and reminded the council on the Covenant of Conduct for the church council. See copy in office file.

Next Council Meeting is on Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ashley Espeseth and a second by Wayne Hansmann. Motion carried, followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by,

Greg Lea, Secretary

JULY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Intentional Prayer for ORLC One hour before first service 9:00 Live Stream	9:30a Quilting	1:00 p Staff meeting 4:00 pm Grief Group Church groups can begin meeting:	**1** Picnic Church 6p.m.	7:00a Son Risers **2** 6:30pm Executive Board	**3**	**4**
5 See above Worship begins in the backyard! Bring your own chair.	**6** See above 6:30 Community Prayer Walk at Robinson Park	**7** See above	**8** Picnic Church 6 p.m.	**9** See above 7 pm Council meeting	**10**	**11**
12 See above 9:00 Backyard worship	**13** See above	**14** See above 4p Befrienders 4p W/ELCA board 5:30p COJ Board mtg 7pm Group Ministry mtg	**15** See above Picnic Church 6 p.m.	**16** See above	**17**	**18**
19 See above 9:00 Backyard worship	**20** See above NEWSLETTER DUE	**21** See above 9:30 a Joy Circle 1:30p Faith Circle	**22** See above Picnic Church 6 p.m.	**23** See above 1:30 Hope Circle	**24**	**25**
26 9:00 Backyard worship	**27** See above 6:30p HPT Book Study	**28** See above	**29** See above Picnic Church 6 p.m.	**30** See above	**31**	