

**ST. STEPHEN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**August 19, 2018**

<b>Class of 2018</b>	<b>Class of 2019</b>	<b>Class of 2020</b>	<b>Youth Reps</b>
Georgianna Dukes	Gerald Kolb	Chris Bernard	Cooper Reynolds
Andy Marchant	Ashely Lackore	Tripp Brunson	Joanna Taylor
Brad Morgan	Missy Moore	Ralph Haggard	
Suzanne Robinson	Ron Redd	Brant Taylor	
Sandra Shealy	Adam Tworzyanski	Christy Wenzel	

**Executive Committee:**

<b>President</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
Andy Marchant	Adam Tworzyanski	Suzanne Robinson	Mary Keisler

Pastors:                   The Reverend Dr. Patrick W. Riddle, The Reverend Jason Antley  
 Staff:                      Shannon Burnett, Tonya Reynolds, Beth Haggard, Bailey Parker  
 Absent:                    Beth Haggard and Bailey Parker

The August meeting of St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran Church Council was held on August 19, 2018 and was called to order at 6:02 PM by President Andy Marchant.

Pastor Jason Antley opened with a devotion.

After introductions were made Zach Juhl presented his Eagle Scout Project. His project of placing peace benches in the cemetery was approved by council with guidance and more details to follow about attaching the plaques. Mary stated that she and Tonya would help him with the paperwork and discuss how to promote to the congregation. Ron Redd said to come talk to Lutheran Men and they may be able to help with a donation.

Ron Redd made a motion to accept Zach's Eagle Scout Project with confirmation from the Cemetery Committee and placement of the plaques. Motion unanimously approved.

Ron Redd made a motion to approve the May minutes and Suzanne Robinson seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

**Staff Reports** (Please see attached reports)

Pastor Pat's report as submitted

Pastor Jason's report as submitted.

- New members by Baptism Abigail Brewer, Apinya Douglas, Evan Douglas, Charlotte Trezoglou, Landon Cegelis and by Affirmation of Baptism Lena and Lance Young, Ronald Smith, Matthew and Rainee Brewer
- Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 11 for a Join the Journey, Continue the Journey type of celebration
  - Ron Redd suggested and all agreed for the Lutheran Men to prepare a Debt Retirement Breakfast on November 11 instead of the meal on November 18
- The consultant Mike Ward is guiding church stewardship
  - Will receive a discount this year on his services due to his relationship with the SC Synod
- Leadership for Faithful Innovation – How to grow leaders to take on responsibilities within the church
  - 3 Year Tiered Program (Pastors, Staff, then congregation leaders)
  - \$250/pastor for the first year to come from Pastor’s continuing education fund
  - \$4500 total cost over a 3 year period
  - Twelve churches in SC Synod ask to participate
  - Lutheran Seminary in Minneapolis organizing

Ron Redd made a motion to accept the new members by Baptism and Affirmation of Baptism. Suzanne seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Ron Redd made a motion to continue the contract with Mike Ward for another year. Brant seconded the motion. Motion approved

Ron Redd made a motion for St. Stephen’s to participate in the Leadership for Faithful Innovation. Tripp Brunson seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Shannon Burnett, Director of Family Life (report as submitted)

- Thank you to Mary Keisler for the use of their beautiful home on Daufuskie Island for the National Youth Gathering Retreat
- Changes in Youth Groups
  - Senior High 9-12 grade –monthly meetings and 1 Joint with Jr. High
  - Jr. High 6-8 grade - 2 monthly meetings (1 Jr. High only-parent led and 1 Joint with Sr. high-Shannon and Pastor Jason led)
  - JCREW 1-5 grade
  - Youth Choir 6-12 grade
  - Children’s Choir 1-5 grade

- Need additional volunteers in addition to Andy Marchant, Brant Taylor and Tonya Reynolds to cook for Wednesday Night Live
- Rally Day and Committee Fair August 26
- Mike Ward is to meet with Committee Chairs and Liaisons sometime in the future

Christy raised concerns of the shrinking attendance in Children’s Sunday School. There were no solutions on how to “fix” but conversations will continue. Mike Ward may have suggestions on engaging more people.

Tripp Brunson asked if background checks were done on volunteers and also if a paid nursery worker was possible. Background checks have been done in the past. A paid worker was not successful in the past.

Ron Redd stated that the Lutheran Men’s Wildlife Supper raised \$1000 for the LaVie Pregnancy Care Center (formerly LICs House of Hope).

### **Committee Reports**

Finance Report, Treasurer Dr. Mary Keisler (report as submitted)

Ron Redd made a motion to approve the Narthex Report. Andy Marchant seconded and the motion was approved.

Library Committee, Christopher Bernard (report as submitted)

Mary Keisler stated there is a dedicated account if needs arise for the library since it is no longer a line item on the budget.

Property Committee, Brant Taylor

He is working on reviewing and negotiating Maintenance Contracts to help save the church money.

- The current fire alarm contract ending in the next few months; the church will change companies to one that only has a one hour minimum service charge vs a three-hour minimum
- The landscape contract up for rebid next year since the current company’s price is going up
- The elevator being serviced due to hydraulic leak
  - A very generous person has offered to purchase blinds for the Fellowship Hall
  - The cost is around \$3000.
  - Brant will select and place order
  - Working on parking lot lights – have to be reset after each rain

- Looking at LED lights for areas in sanctuary

### **Old Business**

- A new search for Sexton was started after one individual declined
- Pastor Jason presented Eric Abramson for Council approval
  - Works in maintenance at Still Hopes
  - He will give them a minimum of 2 weeks' notice
  - Works in maintenance at Still Hopes
  - Passed drug and background check
  - Benjie will offer him the job on Monday with Council's approval
  - \$33,000 salary plus fica
  - Has some of his own equipment which will be extremely helpful to keep everything looking great
- Get Plugged-In/Rally Day next Sunday
  - Lutheran Men will have a new banner made by Alice Pollack dedicated
- Council responsible for September 16 Debt Retirement Meal
  - Ron Redd volunteered to do his BBQ ribs
  - Council asked to make a \$20 donation and provide desserts.

### **New Business**

- Debt Retirement Meal September 16
- Travis Goodman of Thrivent in Chapin asked if we would allow him to meet clients from Lexington at the church; Council denied request
- Council meeting changed to September 23

### **Announcements**

The September Council Person of the month is Tripp Brunson.

Ron Redd motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:15 PM.

**The next meeting will be September 23 at 6:00 PM. Please note the date change.**

Respectfully on August 20, 2018 by Suzanne Robinson