

Notice: The Council Minutes printed below are for communication purposes only.
St. John Council members have not approved these minutes.

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Member Congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Matthew D. Lorfeld, Pastor
8020 South Park Road
Wisconsin Rapids, WI. 54494
715-423-7788

Council Meeting **Thursday, November 7, 2024**

Call to Order by Chairman Craig Timm at 7:12 p.m. 15 Council members plus Pastor Lorfeld were present.

Opening Devotion led by Pastor Lorfeld with the ongoing video study of “Autopsy of a Dead or Dying Church”. “Lord teach me to pray”. Discussion followed.

Consent Agenda: Additional items included: Trustees and Elders having additions.

Motion made to accept the Consent Agenda by Chuck Peters, second by Darwin Lamb, Motion carried.

Membership Changes: Death of Donna Pietz on October 27, 2024 and service at St. John on November 1, 2024. Burial in Parish Cemetery.

Old Business:

Treasurer update: Craig Timm stated that a person has expressed interest in the position.

Investigation in to new financial programs continues.

Mr. Schimke is conducting his financial position duties from home as the church accounting system is not working well.

Investment Group is being formed.

Endowment Fund monies should be invested at a better rate of interest. Motion made by Jeff Gellerman, seconded by Jeff Zimmerman to allow the Treasurer to make the necessary financial changes. Motion carried.

2025 Budget: The Proposed Budget was shared with the Council for review. Questions answered along with discussion. Motion made by Darleene Swen, seconded by Chuck Peters to approve the Proposed 2025 Budget. Motion carried.

Organ Options were discussed. Repair of the present Pipe Organ versus the purchase of an Electric Organ and Speakers. A Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 5 at 6:00 p.m. for anyone interested to attend and share the findings to Purchase vs. Repair of the present Organ. An Organ Committee will be formed. Findings will be shared at the **Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 19, 2025**, following the worship service.

Memorial Committee is meeting on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

New Business:

Board of Trustees: Jerry Swen stated that a roofing /damage company **inspected the roof**, found no damage. The company quoted at “todays cost” replacement would be \$62,151.80.

Flags at Cemetery are being replaced as needed.

Cemetery Head Stones/Markers are in need of repair. “Wet & Forget” is a recommended stone cleaner. Other stones would need re-setting. This would be a Congregation Project to be completed by Memorial Day 2025.

Text Message Update: Pastor instructed those in attendance on setting up their phone to receive Text Messages from the Church Office., in the event of services cancelled due to inclement weather, etc. Those interested in setting up their phone need to send Text Message to 87447 and answer “yes”.

Council Meeting for November 7, 2024 adjourned at 8:50 p.m. with the Closing Prayer and Benediction.

Upcoming Services and Events

Organ Information Meeting Thurs., December 5th at 6:00 p.m.

Children’s Program: “Walk Through Bethlehem”

Wednesday, December 11th

Wednesday Meals at 5:00 p.m. preceding the

Wednesday Evening Service at 6:00 p.m.

Weekday School at 6:30 p.m.

Note: schedules may be altered due to holiday services

Thanksgiving Service: Wednesday, November 27th--6:00 p.m.

Followed by a “Pie Social” hosted by Lutheran Women in Mission.

Cookie Bake for Cookie Walk: Thursday, December 12th

The congregation is invited to be a part of the

30th Annual Cookie Walk

by sharing their talents of cookie baking and candy making.

Cookie Packaging on Friday, December 13th

Cookie Walk: Saturday December 14, 2024.

Doors open at 9:00 a.m.

Coffee with Friends: Thursday, December 19th

9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

*****ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING*****

Sunday, January 19, 2025—following the morning worship service.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Shepard

Congregational Secretary