

**PELLA LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 6, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Secretary Erin Anderson at 7:02 pm. Pastor Joel Westby led with a devotional reading from Steadfast in Your Word.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Sue Andersen (via phone), Leif Anderson, Erin Anderson, Jody Christensen, Tom Hedegaard, Scott Koterba, John Nelson, Vanessa Pooch, Travis Rosaaen, and Pastor Joel Westby. Natalie West's absence was excused.

**VISITOR CONCERNS & INFORMATION SHARING:** Erin Anderson shared two pieces of mail received. One was a proxy ballot for selecting board members for the Church Mutual Insurance Board. Erin agreed to complete the card and mail. The other item was a donation receipt from the Freedom in Christ Prison Ministry.

**ELECTION OF 2018 OFFICERS:** Sue Andersen called for nominations or volunteers for Vice President. Leif Anderson nominated Travis Rosaaen. Jody Christensen seconded the nomination. Travis accepted the nomination. Nomination was voted on and passed. Sue Andersen called for nominations or volunteers for Secretary. After discussion, Jody Christensen volunteered for the position of Secretary. Council voted and Jody Christensen was elected as Secretary. Council voted on and approved the reappointment of John Nelson as Treasurer.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS TO AGENDA:** None.

**MINUTES:** Travis Rosaaen made a motion to approve the January Council minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Vanessa Pooch and was approved. Jody Christensen made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting on January 16, 2018. Vanessa Pooch seconded. Motion was voted on and passed.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** John Nelson gave the financial report. As of January 31, 2018, the Checking Account has a balance of \$109,096.45 and the General Fund balance is \$34,186.61. The Set Free To Serve Loan Balance is \$510,064.23. These balances were without making our 3 benevolent payments to the Montana Synod, World Hunger and Rocky Boy Mission. Motion to approve Financial Report by Leif Anderson and Seconded by Erin Anderson was voted and passed unanimously.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Wednesday Lenten worship will begin February 14, 2018 at 6:30 with an Ash Wednesday Service. They will continue each Wednesday at 6:30 through March 21, 2018. Wednesday Lenten Lunches will begin February 21 and last through March 21 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. First Communion classes will be offered on Saturday, February 17 and Saturday, March 17, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Attendance at weekly Sunday worship is holding an average of 107 people each Sunday. Tom Hedegaard motioned to approve Pastor's Report which was seconded by Scott Koterba was voted on and passed unanimously.

**CALL COMMITTEE:** Special Meeting to talk about extending a call to Pastor Audrey Rydbom will be held on Sunday, February 11, 2018. At 10:15 a.m. In Sue's absence, Travis will run the meeting. Call Committee will be there to answer any questions.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** Wednesday School children will be singing on Palm Sunday. LYO is still working hard on raising funds for the upcoming ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas this summer. Their Noodles & Doodles Fundraiser has been moved to Saturday, March 10, 2018. They will also have a lock-in that night. Pastor Joel will begin a new Adult series called Animate Bible. Classes will be held on Sundays right after service and again at 6:30 p.m. beginning Sunday, February 11, 2018.

**PROPERTY & GROUNDS COMMITTEE:** Ross Rosaaen was wondering if the committee and council have decided on a final design, size, etc. for the metal sign for the outside of the building. Jody Christensen said she would contact Chairperson Craig Averett to see.

**PELLA PANTRY COMMITTEE:** Nothing to report.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE:** Haven't met. Natalie West & Kyra Hagberg made a presentation during a recent church service introducing this committee to the congregation. Kyra has agreed to chair this committee.

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:** Nothing to report.

**WORSHIP COMMITTEE:** Praise team is going to be involved 2 Sundays during Lent. Pastor Joel shared that they are contemplating adding a Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday. We will know for sure by next meeting.

**LIBRARY COMMITTEE:** The council has elected to make this an active committee that will be placed on the agenda for a report each month on what's happening in the library.

**ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE:** Nothing to report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** John Nelson will bring a list of dedicated funds that have not been used in a long time to March's meeting so that the council can review and discuss what to do with those funds.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Building Use Request. Pastor Joel discussed the use of the church. When we build the church the congregation was hopeful that the building would be used and guess what ....IT IS!! With that in mind we all really need to be mindful that we are not the only group that could be using the church building. We, as a congregation, need to switch our mindset and operate with the assumption that there is likely to be something else going on at the church. To avoid any conflicts and to help the janitorial staff stay informed, please call Chole to schedule every meeting or event that you may be planning on holding at Pella (no matter how big or small). Vanessa suggested that Chole email all council members a copy of our Building Use Permit. Our new proposed slogan: Clear it before you Claim it." We will be posting this information and reminders on our website and in the *Ambassador* to hopefully start the trend of "Clear It Before You Claim It."

Setting council goals for 2018 was discussed. The 2017 council goals were reviewed and discussion was made how some of those goals could just become permanent goals each year. It was decided to wait until Sue is back next month to set any new goals.

Pastor Joel talked briefly about the Pella finding two voting members (1 male and 1 female) to represent us at the Synod Assembly in Great Falls, June 1-3, 2018. Council members will all begin thinking of possible candidates to attend the assembly.

It was discussed to add the Library to Committee Reports each month. After discussion, and upon a motion by Vanessa Pooch and seconded by Travis Rosaaen, motion was passed unanimously.

After a round table discussion about each committee, the following Appointment of Council Members to Committees was decided.

Christian Education Committee – Jody Christensen

Property & Grounds Committee – Scott Koterba

Pella Pantry – Erin Anderson

Outreach Committee – Leif Anderson

Stewardship Committee – Vanessa Pooch

Worship Committee – Natalie West

Library Committee – Tom Hedegaard

Endowment Committee – Sue Anderson and Travis Rosaaen

Council was presented with the annual benevolence agreement that is given to us by the Montana Synod. It was agreed that we would continue our 10% giving based upon our projected income. Agreement was circulated for all council members to sign.

Erin Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Travis Rosaaen seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Jody F. Christensen  
Pella Church Council Secretary