

## **Pella Council Meeting Minutes**

7:00 pm March 7, 2017

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Randy Iversen at 7:02 pm. Pastor Joel Westby led with a reading from Steadfast in Your Love and then a prayer.

**Members Present:** Sue Andersen, Erin Anderson, April Boehler, Jody Christensen, Randy Iversen, John Nelson, Vanessa Pooch, Travis Rosaaen, Diane Savage, and Natalie West.

**Visitor Concerns and Information Sharing:** Representatives from Thrivent Financial were unable to attend so Randy briefly discussed what Choice Dollars were and that these needed to be directed by active Thrivent members by the end of March. The Thrivent members need to either call or go online to direct their dollars for donations. Randy also brought the current church insurance policy to the meeting for Council members to review and was going to have the Property and Grounds Committee review the coverage.

**Additions to the Agenda:** Nothing at this time.

**Minutes:** Diane Savage made a motion to approve the February Council Meeting Minutes and Travis Rosaaen seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed.

**Financial Report:** John Nelson gave the financial report. The Checking Account has a balance of \$74,404.90 and the General Fund balance is \$8,139.73. The Set Free to Serve Loan balance is currently at \$707,989.49. Diane Savage made a motion to accept the Financial Report as presented. Sue Andersen seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Joel Westby gave the Pastor's Report. In addition to the typical monthly tasks, he discussed that April 2<sup>nd</sup> would be Synod House Sunday. The Montana Synod is working towards a new office building and mission center, called The Synod House. The Synod House Sunday will focus on bringing information about this project, and ways to help, to our congregation. He also mentioned the Easter week services that would take place: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday.

**Christian Education Committee:** Erin Anderson reported on behalf of the Christian Education Committee. There will be no WBS, Confirmation or LYO on Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. WBS students will sing on Palm Sunday (April 9<sup>th</sup>). LYO's Super Bowl of Caring collected \$350 for the Richland County Food Bank and Super Subs & Chili brought in \$833 for LYO. Noodles and Doodles and Butter Braids are the next fundraisers. Senior Recognition Sunday is April 30<sup>th</sup>. VBS dates of June 19-23 and timing of 2-5 pm was confirmed. The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30pm.

**Personnel Committee:** Diane hopes to have a meeting on Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> in order to add an additional member to the committee.

**Property and Grounds Committee:** Nothing to report.

**Stewardship Committee:** Nothing to report.

**Worship & Music Committee:** Pastor Joel Westby reported on behalf of the Worship & Music Committee. Special music has been planned out through mid-April. Lenten Lunches are underway, and Pella will host on March 15<sup>th</sup>. April Boehler and Greg Miller agreed to be on the Reformation 500 Task Force. Sundays coming up include Synod House Sunday on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Easter Sunday on April 16<sup>th</sup>, Senior Recognition on April 30<sup>th</sup>, Confirmation on May 7<sup>th</sup>, and Synod Assembly on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Call Committee:** Randy Iversen reported that the Call Committee had sent the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) to the Synod. He indicated that if anyone has name suggestions, that they should contact the Call Committee.

**Endowment Committee:** Next meeting will be on March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30am.

**Reformation 500 Task Force:** Nothing to report.

**Old Business:** Diane Savage asked the Council for direction regarding proposed new wording for the Constitution concerning the Financial Review Committee. Suggestions were given, and it was brought up that consideration should be given to possibly removing Constitution 13.03 and add it to the By-Laws instead. Discussion regarding other proposed wording changes in the Constitution and By-Laws, along with the General Policies, was held. The Membership and Outreach Committee, and its duties, was discussed and Council decided this committee should be kept. Natalie West will be the Council Rep on this committee. Various other committee duties and By-Law revisions were discussed.

Council Objectives/Goals for 2017 were discussed. It was noted that another member had been added to the Reformation Task Force. The membership goals were discussed at length. Discussion included what the goal baseline should be (% of members, # of members, etc.), what the terminology of active membership, active member, and new membership meant, along with some ideas on how to increase these types of memberships. There was no other Old Business.

**New Business:** Randy Iversen presented a staff sponsorship request from UMM. This is separate from a campership (camp scholarship for campers). Council decided to pass on this, as it wasn't budgeted for. It was also noted that the UMM annual meeting is March 19<sup>th</sup> if anyone was interested in attending.

Jody Christensen brought up that Cub Scout Pack #143 may be submitting a request for Pella to be its Charter Organization. This would be at no cost to Pella, other than providing a meeting space.

The meeting was adjourned by Diane Savage making the motion and Jody Christensen seconding the motion. It was voted on and passed.

Respectively Submitted,

Erin Anderson, Secretary