

St John Voters Meeting Minutes June 23, 2013

President Ron Rathe called the meeting to order. Pastor Wolter opened with prayer.

Roll call was answered with twenty-eight voters present.

March meeting minutes were presented for review. Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes as printed. Motion carried.

Pastor reported that he now has a window in his office door as requested. Church office doors may be rekeyed or locks replaced. New secretary, Beth Crabtree, continues to learn her duties and responsibilities. Pastor has suggested a church council/board retreat in order to plan how best our congregation can accomplish the ministry of Jesus Christ (i.e. vision statement for each board and plans for ministry that would integrate with the overall mission of the church). We should continue to look for fellowship opportunities (i.e. recreational and/or festival events) to build relationships within our own congregation as well as with Immanuel, Sterling. Pastor encouraged all to extend love and affection to each other in honoring and glorifying God.

Treasurer's report presented for review. Motion made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried. A Trustee reported that the roof loan had been refinanced at no cost for half a percent lower interest. The debt principal is currently \$46,995.49 with thirty-one payments remaining. Thrivent members have been directing Thrivent Choice dollars toward debt principal payment as well.

President Rathe reported that Fred Pooch has resigned as trustee. Gary Wilhelm was appointed to fulfill the remainder of the term (through the end of 2014). Motion made and seconded to accept/confirm this appointment. Motion carried.

Board of Education: Peggy Fuhrman has been hired as the new preschool teacher for 2013-2014. Applications coming in for teacher's aide. Vacation Bible School will be held in the evenings the week of July 8-12. There will be a sign-up sheet for volunteers and food donations on the table in back of church.

Board of Elders: Elders continue to look for ways to increase fellowship. Discussion was held regarding the formal assignment of an elder as a spiritual caretaker/liaison per congregational member/family. Motion for assignment of elders to congregational membership, with members being notified of their "assigned" elder, made and seconded. Point of clarification: congregation members may still contact any of the elders for their assistance. Motion carried.

Board of Evangelism, Fellowship, and Mission: Father's Day recognized with treat. It was suggested that a church/preschool combination be created for the parade float in August; perhaps the teacher and some students could ride the float.

Board of Stewardship: Thanks for continued contributions toward the roof debt.

Board of Trustees: Restroom renovation coming to conclusion. Floors, including the basement, will be waxed. The rope on the flag pole is being replaced. Trustees will check into new computer tower/workstation and related transfer of software/data for church secretary as existing system is running very slowly due to the amount of software installed on it. It was also determined that someone would be contacted about making an urn funeral pall for the church.

Pipe organ repair necessary - \$6, 250 estimate for rebuilding three reservoirs and one stage on swell motor (leather dried beyond patching, 40 yr life), wait time for repair is currently a year. There was not any electrical issue indicated however, it was recommended that the organ also be checked for power surge, in relation to the sound system.

The Trustees will be contacting the insurance company in relation to the parsonage roof. There is a \$3,788 labor estimate for shingling and the trustees recommend purchasing the materials locally. West side has a sag in rafters and soft spots as well. Bridge may be necessary for adequate repair. Motion made allowing the trustees to proceed with arrangements for the necessary repair and reshingling of the parsonage roof. Motion seconded. Motion carried. Trustees are also in the process of requesting property insurance quotes for competitive coverage/cost evaluation in current market.

Motion made and seconded to approve the board reports as presented. Motion carried.

Beautification Committee: Work to resume in fall with removal of dead shrubs and some bushes. Planting will occur with memorial funds. Members are very complimentary of the biblical garden.

Preschool Committee: Six potential students known at present for 2013-2014 school year (three submitted applications and three other families which have expressed interest). Ad may be run in paper.

Youth Committee: Youth looking for fellowship opportunities and considering the possibility of a servant event. Pastor is looking forward to the upcoming year with the new confirmands involved. Possibility of international mission trip in two or three years. Pastor commented on the "Dead Serious about Life" performance which the youth recently attended in Auburn.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Pastor indicated that he plans to post past meeting minutes on the church's website. Confidential, sensitive, and non-public information is not to be included.

Motion to adjourn made and seconded. Motion carried. Pastor closed with prayer.

Cheryl Bartels, Secretary