

**MINUTES OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING  
OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Through Zoom, on Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:03 pm**

**Vision Statement:** *Peace Lutheran Church is a welcoming, worshipping and witnessing community in Jesus Christ through whom healing, wellness, love and peace are offered unconditionally to all.*

**Mission Statement:** *Celebrating and Sharing God's Love for All.*

**ATTENDANCE:** Dawn Soulis (chair), Janet VanderWees (vice chair), Rosemarie Lantzsch (secretary), Giselle Bischof, Ina Toso, Tapio Haapalehto, Pastor Ronnie, Jeremy West and Gloria Zorn.  
Guests: Sunny Wishart and Joan Ruhnke

**Call to Order:** D. Soulis called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

**Opening:** D. Soulis did the opening devotion and prayer. G. Zorn will do it in May.

It was moved by G. Bischof, seconded by G. Zorn: **THAT the agenda for Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be approved. CARRIED.**

It was moved by T. Haapalehto, seconded by J. VanderWees: **THAT the Minutes of the Church Council Meeting held on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 be approved. Discussion:** I. Toso asked if the March Minutes can be posted to the website once approved. Yes. D. Soulis mentioned that Wayne Ruhnke asked us to consider sharing the Minutes as well to Committee Chairs. After consideration, it was agreed that posting to the website is sufficient since many Council members are affiliated with most committees. **CARRIED.**

The Treasurer's Report and financial statements were previously sent out by email. **Discussion:** Sunny went over key points in the Treasurer's Report. Bill Gregor tidied up expense report which Kateryna typed up for him. He moved the expenses incorrectly noted in W&A Technology to W&A, which put W&A over budget for the year. Creative Cloud software purchase of \$352 still needs to be moved from W&A to the software section under "Office" in the General Operating Fund Income & Expenses. Under W&A, Pastor Ronnie stated "Eternity for Today" purchase is \$400 per year. He also purchased new Worship Hymn books including new material for the choir to use. Should he move this purchase from ParaSource in the amount of \$824 to another location? D. Soulis said no – it is an actual W&A expense and should be kept there for tracking purposes for next year – Sunny agreed. Pastor Ronnie stated that the Hymn books purchase through ParaSource was done by the church credit card – was this correct? Sunny stated yes, as long as all expenses are recorded and allocated on the Expense Sheet. **Note:** Sunny mentioned that a new Expense Sheet was done and as previously approved and agreed to, all Expense Sheets submitted need to be signed by two signatories on Council. Sunny stated that as recommended and approved last month, the CEWS monies, was supposed to be moved to the Family of Funds (Special Purpose Funds). This was not done for two reasons: the accountant advised that the funds on the dedicated funds page must be allocated to a specific expense, and Helen Ehlers, who was engaged to review PLC's QuickBooks, stated this money is income and needs to be allocated as such. CRA needs to see it as income. Pastor Ronnie asked if she can put a disclaimer by the CEWS money on the financials, stating that this is a subsidy income. Sunny indicated yes she will.

D. Soulis stated that we normally send a Quarterly Treasurer's Report to members of Peace. Sunny was not aware of this, but will get it done. **To Do: D. Soulis asked R. Lantzsch to send a copy of what was sent last year to both herself and Sunny for their review. Sunny will then prepare and send the Quarterly for the period of January to March 2021 for Council's review.**

It was moved by R. Lantzsch, seconded by T. Haapalehto: **THAT the March financial statements be accepted. Discussion:** T. Haapalehto noted that there is a formatting error in the Financials – the amounts in Miscellaneous and Rentals needs to be flipped. Sunny will take care of it. R. Lantzsch asked if the \$1,050 received for Olive Branch has been sent – yes. There being no further discussion, the Motion to accept the March financial statements was **CARRIED**.

### **New Business:**

**Installation of Council:** The installation of Council, Sunny Wishart as Treasurer, and Joan Ruhnke as Financial Recording Secretary, was recorded by Pastor Ronnie. After that, Sunny and Joan left the meeting at 7:40 pm. The installation recording will be included in PLC's worship service on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Visioning Reminder:** D. Soulis reminded us that Fiona Haapalehto asked us to answer some questions to send to her by no later than the end of April. Our next Visioning session is on Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Pastoral Pension Plan Update:** On behalf of Council, D. Soulis sent a letter that Fiona Haapalehto helped draft to ELCIC Eastern Synod with a Resolution petitioning Group Services Inc. to prepare a report detailing the advantages and disadvantages of the ELCIC joining a public sector type defined benefit pension plan. A copy of this letter was sent by email to Lena and Joel Sievers, PLC's delegates to the Eastern Synod Assembly Annual Convention, which was acknowledged by Lena.

**Note:** D. Soulis will talk to Kateryna about designing new PLC letterhead that Council members or others can use on behalf of Peace Lutheran Church.

**Summer Donations:** D. Soulis mentioned we need to communicate to the congregation that it is important to support the church with ongoing donations whether members are at home or away during the summer holidays. Sunny mentioned she can include a one liner in the Quarterly Treasurer Report. R. Lantzsch asked Pastor Ronnie about his vacation plans. Pastor Ronnie answered that they are possibly looking at July 15<sup>th</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup>. We will not need pulpit supply during their vacation time as either Arnold or Bishop Pryse and others in ELCIC will supply sermons during the summer months. Worship services will either be pre-recorded by Pastor Ronnie or he can ask Kirsten to help. Kirsten has taken over all music projects, which helps out Pastor Ronnie.

**Other Business:** D. Soulis confirmed that Shirley Fingler is still doing the counting of Peace offerings and J. VanderWees confirmed that she is back-up. We sang Happy Birthday to D. Soulis, as it is her birthday today.

### **Old Business:**

**Constitutional Changes and Process:** Hold off for now.

**Prayers for the People:** Confidential

**Correspondence:** Pastor Ronnie received a nice email from Bishop Michael Pryse about the new Podcast "Scribbler to Scribe". Pastor Ronnie appreciated his comments.

### **Reports:**

**Property:** The Property Report was previously distributed to Council. Items discussed:

- T. Haapalehto reported that he received an email from Kateryna that the City of Pickering is making available to Peace for free, a skid of hand sanitizer, which we would have to pick up with a fork lift and a flatbed truck. This is way too much.
- T. Haapalehto received an update from Elizabeth about the Peace Garden. She is putting down 12 bags of soil.
- Bayshore Mews decided to rent from Peace 10 parking spaces in the lower parking lot (instead of the initial 15 spaces offered by Peace) and agreed to make monthly payments of \$600 for six months. As

part of the agreement with them, Tapio purchased 10 “Reserved” signs for these parking spaces. Pastor Ronnie enquired if we should set aside approximately 10-15% of this additional income towards paving the parking lot, roof repairs, etc. T. Haapalehto stated we have money in the Property Reserve, but since these are big expenses, we need to prioritize what needs to be immediately fixed, like the sewage drain pipe.

- Butler Drain came on April 8<sup>th</sup> and was unsuccessful in clearing the partially blocked Boiler room pit drain using power flush equipment. They tried to do it outside the building, but the motor failed. Once the power flush equipment is fixed, they will attempt it again. If the power flush doesn't resolve the problems, we may need to consider excavation work to repair the sewer drain pipes, which could exceed \$7,900.
- T. Haapalehto mentioned that Robert came and fixed the cross of lights on the roof.
- C&R Paving invoiced the church \$1,275 plus HST for 17 additional saltings at \$75 per application (above the first 10 saltings included in the 2020-2021 snow removal agreement). T. Haapalehto was surprised that there were 27 saltings last winter. He did ask the owner to verify and double check the crews salting logs, but there is no other way for us to verify this additional expense. T. Haapalehto authorized payment. T. Haapalehto did increase the 2021/2022 budget by \$650 but expressed concern that it may be higher next winter.
- J. West mentioned now that G. Zorn is moving away, he needs someone as third person on the Fire Alarm call list. J. West is first and R. Lantzsch is second. Pastor Ronnie offered to be third.
- When asked, J. West confirmed that Heddi returned the keys for the church. J. VanderWees needs a set of the church keys. J. West will give her a set.

**Health Cabinet:** Health Cabinet held a meeting on March 25, 2021. The Minutes were distributed to Council. They are doing a Healing Service on April 25<sup>th</sup> and Heddi sent in her recorded prayers. T. Haapalehto mentioned that the Health Cabinet Minutes included a very detailed Task list with timeline.

**Mutual Ministry:** There was no Mutual Ministry meeting in the past month, just the Visioning session held on April 6<sup>th</sup> and discussion about the Pastoral Pension Plan.

**Olive Branch:** R. Lantzsch expressed appreciation to the Olive Branch team, especially Pastor Ronnie and Kirsten for including the videos Deborah sent and the music Kirsten and Jas composed in the worship services. I also mentioned that the TOBFC Annual Fundraising Gala is on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Pastor's Report:** A copy of Pastor's Report was previously sent to Council. Pastor Ronnie gave a summary of his report which included key statistics of the past 28 days including Holy Week and the David Maginley series. There were 25 Zoom meetings (Coffee Hour-5, Bible Study-5, Confirmation-5 and Other-10) and 11 YouTube worship videos (including the last 2 Lenten series videos). There were 1,274 views, 470 unique viewers and 5 subscribers. Pastor Ronnie spent over 250 hours in putting the videos together. Pastor Ronnie produced 10 episodes of Scribbler to Scribe and 3 have been released so far – no stats yet. For the Lenten series, there were 5 videos with 917 views (in addition to approximate attendance of 900 for all 5 events). Pastor Ronnie also sent two attachments to his report showing the Top 10 Peace Videos since December and the Top 10 Peace Videos before December. For instance, the Tree of Life & Awesome Mystery has 344 views since February 20, 2021. D. Soulis thanked Pastor Ronnie for all of his efforts. Pastor Ronnie feels that Peace is growing and that we are blessed.

D. Soulis did a Closing Poem (“Power of One”).

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

**Next Council Meeting – Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7 pm**