

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church
July 12, 2020 – Special Congregational Meeting

Called into community, gifted to serve.
Glorifying God through love in action.

Pastor Aileen opened the special Congregation Meeting with prayer.

Jeff Gerstenberger welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting. He explained that we were meeting virtually again because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jeff established the following agenda:

- Opening Prayer
- Meeting logistics
- Parking Lot Lighting Proposal
- PPP Loan Program
- Financial Update
- Food Ministry
- Closing Prayer

Jeff opened the special Congregational Meeting with prayer.

Jeff explained how everyone would be muted to start and we could use “chat” or “raise hand” to ask a question or make a comment. People on the phone could also ask questions and make comments. Voting would be done by a zoom meeting poll; we practiced the process, and both zoom participants and phone participants confirmed the ability to participate. Any confirmed member could vote. The meeting instructions were similar to our previous virtual congregational meeting.

During our May 3rd Congregational meeting where we approved spending \$45,000 for drainage and paving repairs to the parking lot, members brought up the issue of parking lot lighting and safety. We thought we could fix the current pole for about \$10,000. Unfortunately, after diligent investigation by Rod and his team, the cost to light the parking lot would be between \$40,000 and \$50,000.

Together we looked at 2 quotes and proposals which included maps indicating pole placement and areas of illumination. The council recommended the \$47,464 O’Connell proposal which would best meet the congregation’s criteria with 4 new poles and LED fixtures. It also includes outdoor outlets, and 24-hour timer, electrical inspection, and town permits.

The recommendation from council is to accept the O’Connell proposal and have the work done prior to the paving project. Funding recommendation includes \$10,000 from the Current Year Carryover Fund, \$30,000 from the Capital Campaign Fund, and up to \$10,000 from the Concord Fund.

A discussion followed and all questions were answered.

Bob Ulreich made the motion to approve and Tarri Mundt seconded it. The vote was 52 yes and 2 no and the motion carried.

Jeff provided a Payroll Protection Plan Loan update – Messiah received \$28,100 on 4/28/2020 to be used for payroll and utilities for an 8-week period which would leave \$3,155 to return. The new PPP Flexibility Act extended the 8-week period to 24 weeks therefore we will be able to use all of the \$28,100.

We viewed charts indicating YTD giving is down 2%, YTD expenses are down 3%. The data did not include the PPP \$28,100.

The Outreach Team has seen a steady growth of families needing food since March. The process of receiving calls, scheduling pickups, and delivery to cars has been very successful, especially because of the dedicated volunteers. From March through June 1161 people have been feed 3 meals a day for 3 days and ½ of them are children. Funding is month by month and is supported by Foodlink grants and donations.

Pastor Aileen led the closing prayer.

Submitted by Laurie Simonson