

Our Savior Lutheran Church Board of Elders Meeting

8:00 am Saturday, July 14, 2018

Members in attendance: Pastor Rick Jones, Nick Dreyer, Jim Potts, Steve Carbno, Ryan Schaan, Paul Dockter, Lynn Nord, Eric Poppinga

Chairman Nick Dreyer called the meeting to order at 8:04am.

Pastor Rick Jones opened with a really wonderful devotional and prayer.

Pastor Rick gave an update on the call committee and also on the highlights of the congregational self-study. He also advised the Board that as of Sept. 2nd he will step away as our Vacancy Pastor. Pastor Rick needs our Church home for his spiritual fulfillment after he is no longer in the vacancy position. In addition, this is where he and his family have and want to keep their Church home. He and his family are very important to our Church family, so in order to keep him with us, we need to see he and his family get some appropriate physical and spiritual rest. The call committee is looking at two gentlemen at this time. Rev. Dr. Merrill and Rev. Dr. Davis. Rev. Merrill may have a similar issue to Rev. Barbey whereas it may not be an appropriate time to leave his current congregation. The call committee is meeting on Monday and at that time, they will interview Rev. Davis and will try to make a determination of how to move forward at that point. Chairman Dreyer thanked Pastor Rick for all he has done as our vacancy Pastor and pledged the Board's full support for him and his family.

We discussed 2019 ministry milestones and how best to move these things forward. Some of the topics that were discussed which seemed to need some special attention were outside ministry, assets and how our Church home is taken care of, and also where some of the money budgeted is allocated to these specific areas. Steve Carbno brought up the fact that there were/are people now on the Board of Elders that are currently making and meeting milestones. He brought up Mercy Care specifically and how we have stepped up and made that program into a milestone. This program has been successful only through the wonderful generosity and trusting hearts of our congregation. The Board intends to focus on the need for additional help with some maintenance items and how we can help Rob (who does a great job) keep up with things at the Church, both inside and out. We discussed the topic of a maintenance team and how this would be a wonderful milestone and possible outward ministry. There was a lot of excitement about this program when being discussed amongst the Board. Chairman Dreyer asked Board members to present ideas and/or goals for Ministry Milestones to him by Sept. 15th.

Confirmation was discussed and what the requirements will be for instructors, guides, aides as far as how many people we will need to make it a successful program for 2018-2019. We discussed the need for the Board of Elders to be more visible and more present. As a Board, we want to help to refocus Confirmation and to make it better, stronger, and to help out the wonderful people who run and organize the Confirmation program at our Church. Chairman Dreyer requested the Board show up as a group for the meeting for the first day of Confirmation. We need to encourage the parents and help them to understand how important Confirmation is in the lives of our kids and our families.

The Board of Elders needs to be first and foremost in availability for the kids and parents. We are there to be a reliable resource to our Confirmation leaders and volunteers.

Chairman Dreyer stated that there may be situations that will require one of us to perform or assist in visitations to the hospital where certain scenarios will call for spiritual help from an Elder. Chairman Dreyer also stated that the Elders who had volunteered are currently carrying out in home visitations.

Chairman Dreyer covered the Mercy Care program, the current budget numbers, and some of the particular items that will need some fairly immediate attention as we move forward. The Board is extremely thankful for the wonderful generosity of the congregation and their support for the Mercy Care program.

Jim Potts provided an update regarding the safety and security team. Jim stated he was asked by the Governing Board to present an overall plan and procedure for the team and program. Jim also stated that he was asked to provide some clarity as to how the program would be set up and implemented. There was some discussion amongst the Board about having or not having a policy regarding firearms within Church. The Board of Elders feels that a vote to the congregation for the policy would be counterproductive and would likely frighten people. The Board feels that a team put in place to form policies and procedures with the input and assistance of both Boards would be a very positive way to move this very necessary program forward.

Chairman Dreyer stated the next Member Call Night is on Tuesday, July 17th at 6:00pm.

Chairman Dreyer stated the topic of Governing Board meetings being held on a monthly instead of quarterly basis was brought up at the last regular meeting. This has been brought up by some Board members in the past and will possibly be a topic of conversations in the future pending the items in front of the Board during particular times within our Church. Occasionally there are topics that cannot wait for the next regular meeting and need a special meeting time.

Chairman Dreyer stated that the 8:15 worship style topic would be written up in the bulletin for the following week's service and will ask members of the congregation to contact the Board of Elders with their questions/concerns/comments regarding how the Board voted to proceed.

Chairman Dreyer stated the next Board of Elders meeting will be held on August 18th, 2018 at 8:00am.

Chairman Dreyer had the meeting closed in prayer and adjourned at 9:58am.

Respectfully & Prayerfully Submitted,

Eric L. Poppinga