Salem Lutheran Church 2702 1st Street, Mahtowa, MN 55707

Church Council Minutes, December 13th, 2016

Members Present: Pastor Beth, Jeff Gilbertson, Donita Korpela, Zach Langhorst, Dave Eller, Brent Speldrich, Jason Marsh

Opening Prayer led by Pr. Beth Pottratz

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve by Donita, Second by Brent. Agenda carries

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from October 11th Meeting were presented. Motion to approve by Jeff, Second by Dave. Motion carried

Treasurers Report: Written financial report distributed and reviewed. Prediction 2016 financials for Salem will be approximately \$8,000 short from budget. This has been announced to the congregation. Financial report to be accepted as presented. Motion by Jeff, Second by Brent, Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

- a) Pastor Beth has recommended the council read a book on Stewardship
- b) Christmas Eve service will be at 4:00pm and Christmas Day service will remain at 9:30am on Sunday
- c) No Sunday School or confirmation over the Christmas Holiday
- d) Pr. Beth will take the last week of December and has been granted the first week of January off. Request to use her 2016 vacation time for the first week of January. Motion to approve the 2016 vacation to be rolled over to the first week of Jan 2017 by Jeff, Second by Dave, Motion carried.
- e) Back to the Basics for Reformation is planned for 2017 starting January. Pr. Beth would like to purchase small catechism for this.
- f) Pr Beth announced that she has a new pet dog. Any expenses above and beyond normal wear and tear will be covered on her own if necessary.

Old Business:

a) Joey Fundraiser event went very well over \$6,000 was raised towards his van purchase. Joey was very thankful for what was accomplished.

New Business:

- a) Pastor Salary was reviewed and compared to the NE Synod 2017 Guidelines. Salary was presented and accepted by Pr. Beth for 2017 budget.
- b) 2017 Proposed budget was established for approval at the annual meeting.
- c) Review of vacant positions was held and discussion regarding nominations for council open positions.
- d) Annual meeting is set for January 29th 2017. Potluck and meeting after church.
- e) Digital storage for Book Keeping Technology is not free as previously discussed. Held until Jody can be here for next meeting to discuss reimbursements.

Adjourn: at 9:55pm Motion to adjourn by Jeff, Second by Dave, Motion Carried. **Next meeting**: Tuesday, January 10th at 6:30pm.