

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 5, 2020

Council members in attendance were: Bob Decusky, Janice Wasser, Gary Schell, Gail Becker, Laura Faust, Bill Rudolph, Clarissa Geary, Grace Kamarousky, Wayne Mensinger, Joan Mensinger, and Pastor Jay. Also in attendance were Marion Chupasco and Judy Rudolph. The meeting opened with devotions by Gail. The minutes of the September meeting were read and approved. Treasurer's reports were given, approved, and filed for audit.

Pastor's report: 4 hospital visits, 5 private communions, 1 private counseling, 2 funerals, 1 wedding. Also attended a meeting of the Library board and a basket raffle meeting. Participated in a synod zoom meeting and the Thursday evening prayer chats. Some hospitals are allowing visitors and Pastor Jay is also doing brief private communions. The live stream and recording of services is going well. Volunteers are needed to help with worship as communion assistants, greeters, and someone to release congregation from pews for communion. Anyone interested should call the office. Pastor Jay also thanked all who helped during our summer outdoor services. Our first indoor service was held and seemed to go well. There will be a meeting on November 8 for catechism. The covid 19 numbers will determine if classes will be held in person or on zoom. The same possibilities will be used for Bible Studies.

Office report was reviewed. It was noted that the Ringtown Olde Fashioned Christmas on Main St. probably won't be on Main St. Vine St. will possibly be closed and used instead. Permission was also given to use our parking lot for the event. Marion also reported that the Friends Helping Friends day will have just the Hazleton and Pottsville Boscov's s stores included for our congregations. Trick or Treat is on October 31 and Girl Scout registrations is on October 9.

Committee reports:

Think Tank: Scheduled a Bloodmobile for October 10 and a Mr. Sticky sale for November 11.

Property: Pastor Jay said the new janitor, Charlie Hughes, is doing a good job at mowing and trimming around the parsonage.

Old Business: Bob Decusky read a thank you letter from the Library for the use of our parking lot and tables for their basket raffle fund raiser. A takeout rib dinner was scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 25 beginning at 12 noon until sold out. Wayne turned on the heat. It will be turned off just prior to the Sunday service when we open the windows to allow for air ventilation to lower the chances of spreading germs. The congregation needs to be reminded that everyone should leave the building immediately following the service. Any socializing can be done outside. 2 council members will be needed to fill the vacancies of members whose terms are up at the end of the year.

New Business: Discussed the possibility of a stand for the Olde Fashioned Christmas. The mask and towel sales have been very successful and will continue as long as there are still requests for purchases. Discussion was held on various possibilities for conducting Christmas Eve services to avoid crowds.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Joan Mensinger, secretary

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 6, 2020

Members In Attendance: Pastor Jay, Mario Curreli, Dotsy Fritz, Bob Fritz, Marie Clark, Millie Krupilis, Deb Kapusnick, Judy Kline, Georgette Herring, Marion Chupasco

Secretary' Report: Approved as amended

Treasurers' Reports: Available for review and sent to audit.

Pastor's Report: hospital visits 4, private communions 5, private counseling 1, weddings 1, funerals 2
Pastor Jay attended the Ringtown Library Board meeting and helped with the basket event. Thank-you to everyone who helped with the summer services. Pastor Jay will continue to use Zoom for the prayer chats. We will continue to use Facebook to get out information. For the worship services Jamie will do one service live stream. Pastor Jay asked if anyone would be willing to help do the live stream or record the service. We are getting more traffic on the YouTube page. There is an average of 38 views for Brandonville. Our services as they move inside will need volunteers (communion assistants, greeters). Anyone can volunteer. Please contact the church office if you are interested. Pastor Jay is trying to figure out a way for catechism to be held on November 8th. The study group could be broadcast through Zoom.

Office Report: Available for review. Pastor Jay will be on vacation 10/12/2020 - 10/24/2020.

Old Business: The fund raisers continue to be a work in progress. The worship services indoors, how did it go? Any thoughts or comments? The overall impression was that they went well. Everyone is encouraged to maintain spacing with the seating. When receiving communion we need to maintain intentional spacing when coming to the table. We made 413.00\$ at Brandonville with the masks and towels. The total is 1044.00\$ as of September.

New Business: The Rotary Club is trying to do an old fashion Christmas in town. There would be crafts, food trucks, and carriage rides. The deadline to register is the end of October. If we would be interested in doing something please let Pastor Jay know, so we can put it together. We need to start thinking about the Christmas Eve service. We need to be creative. We want to celebrate in a meaningful manner in order to touch people's lives and still be safe. Pastor Jay is open to creative ideas. The poinsettia order sheets went out for Christmas.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer
Marie Clark, secretary

**SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS
SUN, NOV 22**

...called by the church councils at Brandonville and Ringtown for the expressed purpose of electing church council members whose term would begin JAN 2021.

Remember your church this month...

