

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting
Tuesday, December 20, 2016 – 5:30 p.m.
Minutes

Attendance: Council- Dave Rogness, Chris Kraemer, Jane Nelson, Kathy Helming, Loren Stahl, Marianna Malm, John Bennett, Gary Inman, Sindy Keller; Staff – Pastor Corey Bjertness, Pastor Laurie Neill, Pastor Matt Cordes, Pastor Bill Ahlfeldt, Daniel Damico, Christy Schilling.

President Gary Inman called the meeting to order. The Mission and Vision statements were read.

Devotion and Opening Prayer – Pastor Corey led opening devotions and prayer.

Consent Agenda

- **Minutes** from the November meeting are to be carried forward for review and discussion at the January meeting.
- **Administrator's Report** – presented by Daniel Damico
- **Committee Reports**
- **Task Force Reports**
- **Pastor's Reports**
 - Staff report provided by Pastor Laurie. Highlights of the many events/activities during the month of December. A radio spot was recorded inviting people to Christmas worship.
 - Pastor Matt shared the enthusiasm and successes with the Servant Leadership program. As this is meant to be a multi-generational format, he welcomes ideas for topics/classes to consider in the curriculum.
- **Board Governance Review**
- **Correspondence**

The consent agenda was reviewed and approved as presented. Dave Rogness made a motion to approve. Marianna Malm seconded. Motion carried.

Regular Agenda:

- **Financial Report** – Christy Schilling reviewed the November finances. Overall revenues are down compared to budget. The December contributions will determine expense management in the New Year. Loren Stahl motioned to approve. Sindy Keller seconded. Motion carried.
- **Old Business**
 - **Employment Update** - A job offer has been extended for the open Member Relations/Event Manager position. Acceptance pending.
 - **Change of Bank** - Transition is about 95% complete and going well.
 - **December Dilemma** – no discussion
 - **Continuing Ed Expense** – no discussion

New Business

- **Generations of Generosity Campaign** –
 - An organizational chart and structure for leadership, duties and events for launching the Generations of Generosity Campaign in the upcoming year was discussed. Informational materials are targeted for completion early January. Pastor Corey provided a timeline beginning January 10th, 7pm, leadership kick-off, followed by Advance Visit Training on January 17th. The Advance Visit phase will be from Jan 17th to April 16th. The efforts of this campaign will be shared at a celebration event set for May 14th.
 - Dave Rogness in follow-up to his consent to Chair the Building Committee recommended:
 - The focus group information be reviewed for any new information to consider and also to revisit the existing plans. He proposed meeting again in April.
 - Other suggestions included development of an ongoing communication format with the members of the Building Committee to stay connected and on task.

- Pastor Corey asked about the Congregational Meeting framework and lessons learned. President Inman stated a need to review the mechanics of the meeting and consider absentee ballots for future meetings as a possibility.
 - Currently, the Constitution is restricted to the ELCA model. Discussion focused on the need to revisit possible revisions for the future. It was noted that other churches have done this outside of the ELCA model.

- **ELCA –**
 - The Council reviewed and discussed the ELCA Bishop’s public statement on Standing Rock.
 - Our local Synod has shared that they are in a budget crisis and in need of capital. The Council reviewed budgetary considerations that could be made to help the Synod with their need. Kathy Helming made a motion to redirect the funds currently designated to the national ELCA to our local Synod given their budget crisis and capital needs. This giving will be revisited in FY2019 budget planning. Sindy Keller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sending prayer – Pastor Laurie offered the closing prayer.

Executive Session

Meeting Adjourned.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 16, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. Meal provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Helming
Secretary