



**Congregation Council Minutes**

**October 9, 2017**

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APPROVED

**Congregation Council of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church**

Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2017

**Council Members in Attendance:** Emily Andresen, Joni Barrott, Stein Dolan, Marshall Erling, Karen Grams, Art Gurtel, Andy Hogle, Ben Johnson, Scott Lester, Pastor James McEachran, Steve Serex, Jon Thorpe, Vanessa Wilkie

**Members Excused:** Ann Thorpe

**Staff Members in Attendance:** Sherry Grindeland, Susan Hegedus, Kurt Lutterman, Will Simpson

**Staff Members Excused:** Emily Harrow

**Guests:** none

**Worship:**

Pastor McEachran led worship with devotional words on Mark 3:13-19.

**Call to Order/Introductory Words:**

The regular meeting of the Congregation Council of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church was called to order at 7:29 pm by President Scott Lester.

**Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Minutes from the September 11, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Art Gurtel **moved to approve the minutes as submitted.** Karen Grams seconded. Corrections made. Minutes were unanimously **approved as corrected.**

**Pastoral Care Update:**

Pastor McEachran reported on people in the congregation who have received pastoral care.

**Senior Pastor's Update: Pastor McEachran reported**

- Pastor reported on fundraising results for:
  - Congregations for the Homeless Luncheon: \$150,000.
  - Apples on October 8: \$2000 that will go to the summer 2018 high school mission trip.

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Gather... Encourage... Equip... Send...



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- Spare Change for Water and Seeds: \$1000 that will go to Bihar, India through Lutheran World Relief.
- National Lutheran Choir Concert: \$15,000, plus matching funds from travel TV host Rick Steves, that will go to Compass Housing Alliance and Imagine Housing.
- Pastor shared photos from the Mayors' Day of Concern for the Hungry and the welcome bags given to Imagine Housing's Athene property for its new residents.
- Pastor noted that over 40 people were involved in worship leadership on October 8. He commended the orchestra and noted that several of the guest musicians have played at Saint Andrew's in the orchestra for many years.
- Pastor encouraged everyone to attend the Discipleship Hour opportunity with Dr. Lynn Hofstad of Seattle University, and the special "Luther and the Hungry Poor" program with Dr. Samuel Torvend of Pacific Lutheran University.
- Pastor shared a list of committees and their members from 1964, noting that Saint Andrew's was and continues to be an active congregation.
- Pastor reported that he continues to enjoy his work with the City of Bellevue, serving on the Human Services Commission and the Wilburton Gateway Citizens Advisory Committee. He spends about five hours per week in this service.

### Staff Updates:

- Communications Specialist Susan Hegedus reported
  - She has completed her work to create a timeline display for the "Pathways Hub" in Room 212.
  - She will soon begin preparing materials for the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany seasons.
- Fellowship Coordinator Sherry Grindeland reported
  - Over 30 people attended the Older Wiser Lutheran Saints (O.W.L.S.) program on September 19 and assembled 91 welcome bags for residents moving into Athene, a new Imagine Housing property for seniors. Sherry invited the Council to the October 24 O.W.L.S. program with guest speaker Richard Anderson, Executive Director of the Northwest Railway Museum in Snoqualmie.
  - Sherry invited everyone to the October 21 program by Dr. Samuel Torvend. She is also inviting people from area churches.
  - Sherry is working to publicize the Blessing of the Animals service (on October 15) to the Bellevue community.
  - Two Small Groups for fellowship have been formed and begin meeting in October.
- Director of Music Ministries Will Simpson reported
  - Will commended the orchestra for sharing their musical gifts on October 8.



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- An American Guild of Organists (Seattle Chapter) event for youth will be held at Saint Andrew's on November 4. It is called "Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza" and the event introduces young piano students (ages 11-16) to the pipe organ.
- Facilities Manager Kurt Lutterman reported
  - Kurt continues to work on constructing the emergency supplies shed in the parking lot and implementation of the Emergency Operations Plan.

### Emergency Operations Plan – Drill Protocol/Discussion:

- Scott Lester thanked the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Task Force members for their work: Kurt Lutterman, Matt Jainga, Sherry Grindeland, Karen Grams, Jan Benson, Christine Zomorodian.
- Responding to concerns associated with the original emergency exercise drill (scheduled for September 24 but postponed), the EOP Task Force has submitted a "Police Drill Plan" (included in Council packet.)
- Kurt Lutterman reported that five volunteers have committed to be Ambassadors, but this is not enough people to sustain the ministry. The EOP Task Force will explore costs of hiring security guards.
- Council discussed emergency exercise drills and priorities.
- Stein Dolan **moved that an earthquake drill be planed and implemented within six months of today (October 9, 2017) and that the Council should, in six months' time, decide which type of drill should be held next, and make plans to implement it.** Ben Johnson seconded. Discussion. The **motion was approved** with one nay vote.

### Synod Capital Campaign – "Because of You":

Will be discussed at the November 2017 Council meeting.

### Council Initiatives:

- **Pathways to Renewal**
  - **Discipleship** – Pastor McEachran encouraged the Council to be engaged with activities.
  - **Ministry** - Scott Lester reported on the progress of work with the Joshua Group
    - The Leadership Systems Inventory (LSI) survey had 53 responses out of 82 invitations, or a 65% response rate.
    - The Missional Assessment Profile (MAP) survey was completed by 128 respondents.



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- Individual and small group listening interviews with the Joshua Group will take place October 27 and October 28.
- **Building**
  - Art Gurtel reminded the Council of two main messages to share:
    - No date has been set for a congregation vote on the building remodel
    - The Building Remodel Team is focused on communicating, educating, and informing the congregation about the potential remodel. The two primary approaches being used are:
      - Displays and information in Room 212, the "Pathways Hub".
      - A webpage dedicated to information about the building remodel. The webpage development is in progress.
  - \$2000 was spent from Share the Vision! Be the Life! Mission and Ministry Campaign funds to acquire display boards from VIA Architecture. They are on display in the Pathways Hub.
  - Council members had questions and discussion items. Council should forward questions and comments to Art Gurtel and Andy Hogle, who are the Council liaisons to the Building Remodel Team.
- **Stewardship Plan/Commitment Sunday:**
  - Jon Thorpe and Stewardship Committee member Darcy Johnson will help lead planning and implementation of events for Commitment Sunday. Scott Lester encouraged the Council to assist and participate.
  - Scott Lester shared two potential designs for a pledge card.
- **Nominating Committee:**

Scott Lester has activated the Nominating Committee. Members are Lowell Arneson, Kendra Mills, Dick Swaisgood, Mark Thorpe, and Linda Powell.
- **Constitutional Updates:** Art Gurtel reported
  - The Finance Committee is working on revisions to Constitution descriptions of the Finance Committee and the Audit Committee.
  - The Worship and Liturgical Arts Committee is working on revisions to its Constitution description.
  - Art is preparing a document that compares existing descriptions with revised descriptions to aid in reviewing the changes.
- **Committee Chair Needs:** Scott Lester reported that chairpersons are needed for the Stewardship Committee and the Building and Property Committee. Scott welcomes suggestions.



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### **Finance/Treasurer Report:** Treasurer Joni Barrott reported

- Contributions for September were below budget by approximately \$18,000.
- In August, finances showed a deficit but were on target with the budget.
- Pastor McEachran noted that a letter will be sent with the third quarter giving statements.
- 2018 Current Fund Budget
  - Joni reported that the process to develop the 2018 Current Fund budget has begun. Budget worksheets have been distributed to staff members.
  - The Finance Committee would like two opportunities prior to the 2018 Annual Meeting to explain the budget to the congregation and give opportunity for questions.
- Joni will prepare a report on use of the Share the Vision! Be the Life! Mission and Ministry Campaign funds. It will be included in the November 2017 Council Packet.

### **Committee/Council Liaison Updates:**

Refer to the October 2017 Council Packet.

### **Adjournment and Benediction:**

Pastor McEachran closed with a benediction.

Meeting was adjourned by President Scott Lester at 9:19 pm.

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting is November 13, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Hegedus  
Council Recording Secretary