



Congregation Council Minutes

January 8, 2018

APPROVED

Congregation Council of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church

Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2018

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

Members Excused: Marshall Erling

Staff Members in Attendance: Emily Harrow, Susan Hegedus

Staff Members Excused: Sherry Grindeland, Will Simpson

Guests: none

Devotion:

Pastor McEachran led a devotion focused on the words "Listen, Learn, Dream" and "Gather, Encourage, Equip, Send" and Matthew 28:16-20.

Call to Order/Introductory Words:

The regular meeting of the Congregation Council of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church was called to order at 6:28 pm by President Scott Lester.

Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes:

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

Finance/Treasurer Report – 2018 Budget/2017 End-of-Year Notes: Treasurer Joni Barrott

- 2017 ended with a positive cash flow of \$14,027. Joni noted that all contributions dated and postmarked on or before December 31, 2017 were posted to 2017 income.



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- Joni reported that the Finance Committee recommends that the 2017 surplus be transferred into Fund #17 – Deferred Maintenance, and suggested the Council consider that recommendation at its January 17, 2018 meeting.
- 2018 Current Fund Budget:
 - Finance Committee believes 2018 giving total amount will be similar to 2017.
 - Using the above assumption for income and the requests for 2018 budget expenses result in a 2018 Current Fund Budget deficit of (\$51,966).
 - Finance Committee has developed a budget proposal with reductions in expenses that results in a 2018 Current Fund Budget deficit of (\$4,781). The most significant reduction was from budget line item #5446, "Maintenance/Replacement Reserve." The total Mission and Outreach budget was reduced; Joni noted that the Outreach and Servant Ministries Committee could re-allocate amounts for specific line items.
- Joni noted that, at its January 17, 2018 meeting, the Council's items for consideration are:
 - The distribution of 2017 surplus funds (\$14,027).
 - Which (or both) 2018 Current Fund Budget option to present to the congregation.

Council Initiatives: Pathways to Renewal: President Scott Lester

- Scott reviewed the steps of the Joshua Process. He noted that this meeting's discussion was to consider the recommendations of the Joshua Group, and consider actions to take on the recommendations.
- The Council discussed the Joshua Process itself, focusing on:
 - Positive and constructive criticisms of the process
 - The question of "why" did Saint Andrew's engage in the process
- The Council discussed the Recommendations of the Joshua Group (Complete text of recommendations attached to the original of these minutes)
 - #1. "Pastor McEachran should determine and announce a date for his resignation as soon as possible and prior to the visioning process recommended below....."
 - #2. "Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church would increase unity and renew clarity of purpose by engaging a visioning process to better understand who they are, why they are here, and how god is transforming them for and calling them into the future....."
 - #3. "Before proceeding with a capital campaign, the congregation should engage a visioning process as described in #2....."



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- #4. "the congregation should clarify consistent systems and/or processes of decision-making, evaluation, and accountability...."
- The Council discussed the "Travel Plan" and "Waypoints" recommended by the Joshua Group (Complete text of Waypoints attached to the original of these minutes). For each waypoint, discussion included consideration of the effects on the congregation of implementing the waypoint, and, if accepted, how the waypoint would be implemented.
 - Waypoint #1: Leadership
 - Waypoint #2: Shared Vision

Annual Meeting – January 28, 2018:

President Scott Lester noted that there will be one worship service, at 9:30 am, on January 28.

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will begin at 11:00 am.

Nominating Committee:

President Scott Lester reported that the Nominating Committee has identified nine (9) candidates to run for Congregation Council. They are seeking three (3) additional candidates.

Constitutional Updates:

Vice President Art Gurtel distributed a document outlining current and proposed wording for the committees that have submitted revisions to their Constitution description. Art noted that the 2018 Council will continue the work to consider the changes.

Recognition of Outgoing Council Members:

President Scott Lester recognized and thanked Council members whose terms are ending: Emily Andresen, Joni Barrott, Art Gurtel, Ben Johnson, Steve Serex, and Jon Thorpe.

Adjournment and Prayer:

Meeting was adjourned by President Scott Lester at 8:52 pm.

President Scott Lester closed with a prayer.

The next scheduled Council meeting is January 17, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hegedus, Council Recording Secretary