

Congregational Council
St. John's Lutheran Church
January 17, 2023 | 7:00 p.m.

Members: Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Pr. Jonathan Davis, Paul Beck, Marilyn Calcutt, Rod Christensen, Mark Gleason, Candace Godfrey, Trish Goodrich, Kristy Harms, Tamara Jackman, Dennis Rinehart, Jane Rizzo, Kathleen Shea, Jerry Ugland, Steve Taggart

Present: Pr. Pam Fickenscher, Pr. Jonathan Davis, Rod Christensen, Kristy Harms, Marilyn Calcutt, Jerry Ugland, Jane Rizzo, Trish Goodrich, Candace Godfrey, Dennis Rinehart, Paul Beck, Tamara Jackman, Kathleen Shea, Steve Taggart, Mark Gleason

Not Present:

Meeting was called to order at 7:03pm.

1. Opening devotion and prayer led by Rod Christensen
2. Motion to approve the December 20, 2022 Minutes made by Kristy Harms. Seconded by Kathy Shea. The motion passes unanimously.
3. Financial Report - Jane Rizzo
 - a. We ended calendar year 2022 with a deficit of about 1.8% (\$19,708) - most of it comes from a shortfall of offering
 - b. Utilities were over budget by \$14K
 - c. We will cover the deficit from the Operating line under Restricted Reserves (currently \$65,000); future Council's will need to be aware that these reserves will need to be replenished
 - d. Rod asks if we should use \$7,482 in 2021 Budget Surplus to put towards the 2022 deficit? Council under general agreement that it makes sense to keep the \$7,482 surplus for unexpected expenses in 2023 and pull the entire amount from Restricted Reserves.
 - e. Jane reinforced that there is no problem with cash on hand - bills and salaries are being paid without issue
4. Kristy Harms moved to approve the December financial report. Dennis Reinhart seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
5. 2023 Budget - Kathy Shea (summary sheet attached)
 - a. 2023 Budget is relatively flat
 - b. Planning for a 1% increase in offering, but overall 1% lower in income
 - c. Operating expenses - personnel is our biggest expense - proposed 3% increase
 - d. Capital improvement projects that P&G wanted is not included (light fixtures in Narthex, parking lot, etc.)
 - e. There have been suggestions that the Budget Committee report more frequently to the congregation the status of the budget as the year progresses
 - f. Good to remind congregation about pass-through money, i.e. using designated funds to offset budget

- g. Kathy Shea moves that the Council approves the proposed budget for 2023. Mark Gleason seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
- 6. Pastor's Report (included in the materials for the meeting)
 - a. Special thanks to those on the Budget Committee who have worked hard these past months
 - b. Also special thanks to the three Council members who are departing: Rod Christensen, Paul Beck, and Mark Gleason
- 7. Acoustic Improvement Project
 - a. Thanks to Mark and his team for the completion of the project, and the unanimous positive feedback about the improved sound quality in St. John's Hall.
- 8. Annual Meeting
 - a. Scheduled for **January 29, 2023; 12:30 p.m.**
 - b. The meeting will be available on Zoom as well; members participating online will be able to vote as well
 - c. Parliamentarian to be determined
- 9. Board Reports - Board Chairs (included in the materials for this meeting)
 - i. Business Management Board - Venmo update for Wednesday Night Meals. Council is in favor of moving forward with using Venmo for electronic giving.
 - ii. Evangelism & Communication - special thanks to Daniel Edwins for his hard work in getting live-streaming capabilities over the past few years
 - iii. Worship & Arts - new white paraments on their way
 - iv. Stewardship
 - 1. Kristy hopes to orient their new members prior to the February Board Orientation
 - 2. Annual Thank You event will be a cake & coffee reception between services on January 29th
- 10. New Business
 - a. COVID planning going forward
 - i. Rod recommends that the Safe Operating Committee be dismantled and Faith & Health take on the role. Dennis Reinhart agreed.
 - b. Tim Byers retirement
 - i. Special recognition at Annual Meeting
 - c. 2023 Board Orientation Night
 - i. **Recommendation to change from Tuesday, February 14th to Tuesday, February 7th**

Future Dates:

Budget Preview for Congregation: **Sunday, January 22, 2023**

Annual Meeting: **January 29, 2023; 12:30 p.m.**

2023 Council Retreat: **Saturday February 4, 2022, 9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

2023 Boards Orientation Night: **NEW DATE: Tuesday February 7, 7 p.m. (note change from 2/14)**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm

Other Notes: none.

Respectfully submitted by Trish Goodrich