

CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 20, 2020

I. Opening of Meeting

At 10:42 am, the meeting was called to order by Congregation President R. Stevens. Pastor Ric Elliott opened the meeting with prayer.

II. The only item of business for the meeting was discussion and action on a non-amendable motion regarding renovation and expansion of the worship center. To ensure that only valid votes were captured on the motion, an additional statement appeared on the ballot. Those statements were as follows:

1. I am a confirmed, communing, and contributing member of the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Emmaus, PA and this is my one and only vote. [Yes] or [No]
2. I approve the Building Project, as recommended by Congregation Council, for the expansion/renovation of the Worship Center, Lobby, lower classroom level and additional items as outlined in the Spirit Led – Spirit-Alive Project proposal dated December 6, 2020. The cost is not to exceed \$1.8 million and a mortgage is not to exceed \$410,000. [Yes] or [No]

Discussion: A question was asked about the overall financial status of the congregation as the project begins. The answer was in four parts:

- a. With budgeted income as projected for December 2020, at the end of the year, the operating balance would be in the range of \$190-200k. This implies that the budgeted deficit of \$48k would have been erased and a surplus of about \$20k would have been realized. In part, this is due to the mid-year retirement of Deacon Jane Elliott and to the federal Payroll Protection Program loan that has been changed to a grant.
- b. While the budget for 2021 is still being finalized, initial projections indicate that the budget will have a deficit that likely will not exceed about \$10k.
- c. If a mortgage in the range of \$400k over 30 years is necessary, the budgetary impact in 2021 is only about \$4k. (Payment would not be likely to start before about September 2021.)

d. Approximately \$561k has been received to date from the pledged amounts for the Capital Campaign. This status reflects the monies received after about one year of the three year pledge period.

No other questions were raised. [Note: Details of the proposal had been discussed in several fora over the last few months.]

The Vote was taken electronically using instructions from R. Stevens and technical assistants. (There were 5 mail-in ballots received in the church office before December 20. Those votes are included in the numbers reported below. These mail-in votes are from members without ability to access the meeting electronically.) On the tally on statement #1 about membership, there were 202 Yes votes and 1 No vote. The individual who responded “No” was considered disqualified to respond to statement #2. The valid votes regarding statement #2 on approval of project execution was 186 Yes votes and 16 No votes. The number of votes exceeded quorum requirements. The **Motion** to adopt the Capital Expansion Project was **Approved**.

III. Adjournment

A **Motion** was made by Alice Mudge to adjourn the meeting with a second by Frank Mattes. The motion was **Approved**. Meeting adjourned at 10:59 am.

Submitted by,

Richard Doty

LCHS Congregation Council Secretary