

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

JULY 16, 2024

Call to Order

Council Attendance: Michael Berkheimer, Dean Black, Michelle Borzok-George, Katie Bashus, Mike Epperly, Sue Mathieu, Faye Casciano., Pastor Mark Wimmer, Kristin Ervin, Pastor Tami Reichley, Pastor Cindy Camp, Bob Mueller, Bob Bolen, Rob Sandoval

Excused: John Osenbach, Hannah S.

I. Devotions – Dean Black

II. Adoption of Council Meeting Minutes June 18, 2024: will approve next meeting

III. Staff Reports

1. Pastor Cindy's Report: no action required

2. Pastor Tami's Report: no action required

3. Pastor Wimmer's Report: His final report-no action required

4. Karin Kahler's Report: no action required

IV. Old Business

1. Director of Music Search: Mike Berkheimer announced that two Zoom calls were scheduled for July 17th to discuss the two candidates. Nancy Pfeffer will be stepping down, and Melanie Werley will take over the three services, while Nancy supports her from the background. This arrangement will facilitate a smooth transition for the new music director.

2. Worship Survey: seemingly easy 10 minute survey due by July 30th; Eric Kahler was one who set up the Google Form

3. RIC Document Update: Pastor Tami mentioned that this information has not been updated in over 20 years and emphasized that an update should be completed by 2025. Currently, there are 13 congregations within the Northeast Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA, and it is essential for us to ensure compliance with the annual filing requirements.

4. Artwork: no update

V. Mission Team Updates/Motions

1. Council Goals - Mid Year Update: Mike Berkheimer went over [LCHS Council Goals and Status](#)

2. Mid-Year Finance Update (Topside Report)
3. Finance: Mike Epperly reported on June 2024

Operating Income was \$ 81,483 being \$ 21.7 K higher than its June \$59,818 Budget with operating pledged income being \$ 16.0 K higher than its June Budget , with operating unpledged income being \$ 6.0 K higher than its June Budget, while combined loose plate and non - member contributions were \$ 0.5 K lower than combined June Budget.

Operating Income YTD stands at \$465,399 which is \$ 3.8 K lower than YTD \$ 469,234 Budget. Variance YTD of \$ 3.8 K reflects combined impact of operating pledged income YTD being \$ 10.2 K lower, operating unpledged income YTD being \$ 7.4 K higher , combined loose plate and non - member contributions YTD being \$ 0.4 K lower, Specials YTD being \$ 2.1 K higher, Thrivent Income YTD being \$ 2.7 K lower, and Interest YTD being \$ 0.2 K higher.

Operating Expenses in June were \$ 58,056 being \$ 8.4 K lower than June \$ 66,417 Budget.

Operating Expenses YTD stand at \$ 442,472 which is \$ 8.1 K lower than

YTD Budget of \$ 450,602. --- Most Mission areas in June were close or under June Budget. --
- In June Resources for the Ministry \$ 1.2 K lower than June Budget -----Total People \$ 8.2 K lower than June Budget, and Worship \$ 1.1 K higher than June Budget. ---- YTD Resources for Ministry \$ 4.2 K higher than YTD Budget --- YTD Total People \$ 17.6 K lower than YTD Budget mainly due to open Director of Music position after 04 / 14 / 24 retirement ----
Worship \$ 4.8 K higher than YTD Budget mainly due to Supply Organist coverage for open Director of Music position and Faith Formation - Youth \$ 2 2 K higher than YTD Budget. ----
- No accruals in June. ---- Net Income in June was \$ 23,426 which is \$ 30.0 K higher than expected June Net Income Budget deficit of \$ 6,599 bringing YTD Net Income to \$ 22,927 which is \$ 4.3 K higher than YTD Net Income Budget of \$ 18,632.

OPERATING CASH BALANCE increased from \$ 113,965 on 05 / 31 / 24 to \$137,391 on 06/30/24.

SPIRIT LED / SPIRIT ALIVE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ----- Account cash balance is \$1,935.(June donations \$ 195) No June expenses. **NOTE:** During the first five months of 2024 the monthly mortgage payment of \$ 2,188 on Mission Investment Fund Building Project loan was disbursed from Spirit Led / Spirit Alive account as per Congregational Council resolution.

BUILDING PROJECT LOAN --- Balance on Mission Investment Fund Building Project loan at end of June is \$ 372,797.68 .

BUILDING FUND ---- June month end balance was \$26,155 . (Donations \$815) Expense in June was \$ 4,646.70 payable to Bastian Commercial Floors for installation of LVT flooring in Room 113. **NOTE:** June month end balance contains approved project amount of \$ 12,500 donor contribution designated for new doors into Narthex as part of main hallway upgrade project.

PROPERTY: new benches donated; ceiling grid installed in hallway, lighting will be installed along with baseboards

VI. New Business

1. Senior Pastor Transition: July 28th will be Pastor Wimmer's last services; August 4th will be Pastor Shari's first services, she will begin August 1st; Installation date will need to be coordinated at some point in the fall

2. Pastor Tami is requesting that the Council offer clear intentions and guidance regarding expectations for our pastoral staff in relation to the arrival of Pastor Shari.

VII. Next Meeting/Devotions

- **Tuesday August 13th - Special Council Meeting**
- Assignment of Devotions for Next Meeting - Bob Mueller

VIII. Closing Prayer (Pastor Tami)

IX. Adjourn by 9:10