

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MAY 21, 2024

7:00 PM

Call to Order

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

Excused: Faye Casciano

I. Devotions – Bob Mueller

II. Adoption of Council Meeting Minutes April 16, 2024, **MOTION** to approve minutes by Sue Mathieu. **SECONDED** by Katie Bashus. **APPROVED**

IIIA. Senior Pastor Call Process (Discussion/Vote/Next Steps)

- Bob Mueller reported on the long process for Senior Pastor, the new candidate was unanimously recommended by the Call committee to a vote by Council
- Council to formally vote to recommend the candidate to the congregation **MOTION** by Bob Mueller **Seconded** by John Osenbach
- Council Votes Unanimously YES for the recommended candidate
- Next steps: will have Pastor Shari meet congregation the weekend of June 29th with an Open House and 30th will preach during each service followed by a vote from congregation

IIIB. Staff Reports

- Pastor Wimmer's Report No Questions
- Pastor Cindy reported as we will soon begin planning for fall, the question was raised about whether 3rd Sunday breakfasts would continue in September. This has an impact on the potential usage of the space, so it would be good to have it clarified.

John Osenbach mentioned the high prices for the bells. Pastor Cindy reported that there have been ongoing conversations about the worship schedule for fall as well as the need for and expense of the refurbishment of our hand bells (at least \$11,730). This is due to the

lack of maintenance for over ten years. The Worship Team is investigating what a reasonable maintenance schedule would look like and what the cost would be so that it could become a regular budgeted item and avoid the extensive repairs and cost of a total refurbishment like we are facing now. Apparently, this was not done in the past. The chimes have been refurbished at a much lower expense (\$832.50) and will be paid for, with the agreement of the family, from memorial monies that came in for Ann Neitz.

- Pastor Tami's Report No questions

IV. Old Business

1. Director of Music Search: Mike Berkheimer indicates that we have returned to the starting point in our continuous quest for a Music Director. John Osenbach emphasized the necessity of considering a range of 3-4 years of experience instead of 7-15 years.
2. 2.0/2.7 conversation about transition from 2.7 to 2.0; Pastor Tami highlighted the importance of letting our ministry guide our decisions, instead of letting financial matters control the path we take. This approach ensures a different perspective on how we run our ministry. She emphasized the need to look at our vision and goals of our ministry. It is important to establish priorities of our mission and seek to implement steps to obtain finances to support the vision of LCHS.
3. Artwork Defer to next meeting

V. Mission Team Updates/Motions

1. **Global Mission Team** (Tanzania Fundraising): over the summer hanging envelopes along the rails in the Narthex, During the summer, Pastor Tami mentioned the importance of timing fundraising efforts to avoid conflict with other events; Approval to fundraise in the summer (June to August) for monetary donations to the Tanzania mission

Proposal to have a summer fundraiser, football parking and summer breakfast to go towards the \$10,000 goal. **MOTION** by Dean Black Seconded by Sue Mattheiu **APPROVED**

2. **Finance:** Mike Epperly reported for April 2024

---- **Operating Income** was \$ 59,361 being \$16.2 K lower than its April \$75,550 Budget with operating pledged income being \$15.0 K lower than its April Budget, with operating unpledged income being \$0.1 K higher than its April Budget, while combined loose plate and non - member contributions were \$ 0.3 K lower than the combined April Budget. ----

Operating Income YTD stands at \$ 326,820 which is \$ 22.4 K lower than YTD \$ 349,247 Budget . Variance YTD of \$22.4 K reflects combined impact of operating pledged income YTD being \$ 23.0 K lower, operating unpledged income YTD being \$ 1.8 K higher, combined loose plate and non - member contributions YTD being \$ 0.3 K lower, All Specials YTD being \$ 1.7 K higher, Thrivent Income YTD being \$ 2.7 K lower, and Interest YTD being \$ 0.1 K higher.

----- **Operating Expenses** in April were \$ 73,617 being \$ 0.9 K lower than April's \$74,490 Budget. ----- Operating Expenses YTD stand at \$ 325,224 which is \$ 9.4 K higher than YTD Budget amount of \$ 315,783 . ----- Most Mission areas in April were closer or under the April Budget. --- In April Resources for the Ministry \$ 0.2 K lower than April Budget with Service Contracts \$1.3 K higher offset by lower Electric \$1,1 K. ---- YTD Resources for the Ministry \$10.4 K higher than YTD budget due to Building Maintenance (\$ 6.6 K) and Service Contracts (\$ 4.4 K). ---- No accruals in April. ----- Net Income in April was deficit of \$ 14,256 which is \$ 15.3 K higher than expected April Net Income Budget of \$ 1,060 bringing YTD Net Income to \$1, 597 which is \$ 31.9 K lower than YTD Net Income Budget of \$ 33,464.

----- **OPERATING CASH BALANCE** decreased from \$ 130,317 on 03 / 31 / 24 to \$ 116,061 on 04 / 30 /24.

SPIRIT LED / SPIRIT ALIVE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN ---- Account cash balance is \$ 3,833. April donations \$ 80.) April expense was mortgage payment on Mission Investment Fund Building Project loan (\$ 2,188) ---- NOTE: April was fourth of first five months of 2024 monthly mortgage payment disbursed from Spirit Led / Spirit Alive account as per Congregational Council resolution.

BUILDING PROJECT LOAN ---- Balance on Mission Investment Fund Building Project loan at the end of April is \$ 375,741.22.

BUILDING FUND ----April month end balance was \$ 28,602. (Donations \$ 3,080) April expense was \$4,762.10 balance payment to G. C. Electric Company Inc. for installation of two outdoor security cameras. First security camera at Lower Level entrance door and second security

camera at Nursery School playground area. Deposit of \$ 2,225 90 paid with Cash Exchange balance from Security System Grant. (Total project cost was \$ 6,988) NOTE : April month end balance contains \$ 12,000 which is designated for new doors into Narthex as part of main hallway upgrade project.

RESOLUTION FROM ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE ----- Endowment Committee unanimously recommends Congregational Council approval of additional disbursement from ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust of up to a maximum of \$ 5,000 to fund Call Committee expenses involving the Call Committee search work necessary to secure a new Senior Pastor during 2024.

{NOTE: Have \$ 1,851.34 unexpended funds approved on January 16, 2024, for Call Committee expenses. Approval of this current Resolution brings available Call Committee funds to \$ 6,851.34.}

Request Congregational Council approval of this disbursement to fund above described expense during 2024. **MOTION** by Mike Epperly from Endowment **SECONDED** by Bob Mueller **APPROVED**

RESOLUTION FROM ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE -----Endowment Committee unanimously recommends Congregational Council approval of disbursement from William S. Wotring Endowment Trust of \$800 to fund Vacation Bible School expenses for supplies and materials such as decorations, crafts, snacks, storytelling, games and music. In order to not charge a fee for children to attend 2024 VBS, Endowment funds are utilized to cover any higher expenses incurred between the 2024 VBS budgeted expense amount and the actual 2024 VBS expense amount.

Request Congregational Council approval of this disbursement to fund above described VBS expenses during 2024. **MOTION** by Mike Epperly from Endowment **SECONDED** by Sue Matheui **APPROVED**

RESOLUTION FROM ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE ----- Endowment Committee unanimously recommends Congregational Council approval of disbursement from William S. Wotring Endowment Trust of a grant not to exceed \$ 500. to partially fund the expense of a week at Bear Creek Summer Camp, June 16 - 21 2024, for a twelve year old student who is just finishing sixth grade.

Request Congregational Council approval of this disbursement to partially fund above described expense of a week at Bear Creek Summer Camp for a twelve year old student who is just finishing sixth grade. **MOTION** by Mike Epperly from Endowment **SECONDED** by Bob Mueller **APPROVED**

RESOLUTION FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE ---- Finance Committee recommends

completion of main hallway upgrade project from center entrance door hallway back to Narthex double doors as submitted by the Property Committee. Work involves installation of new 2 x 2 ceiling grid and new ceiling tiles with new LED flat panel lights; new drywall on both sidewalls ; new door frame into Narthex and new double doors matching existing gray painted doors between Narthex and Vestibule using push / pull mounted hardware with top snap latch open unit on each door using tempered laminate glass in doors. Also includes remove and reinstall of existing fire / camera ceiling mounted items; removal of two baseboard heaters and removal of several idle wall switches.

Sources of Funds for main hallway upgrade project will be the following:

- 1) Donor ---- \$ 12,500
- 2) Building Fund ---- 2,250
- 3) Portion of Edie
Gliem estate ----- 6,500

TOTAL MAIN HALLWAY \$ 21,250

UPGRADE PROJECT COST

Request Congregational Council approval of main hallway upgrade project

as described utilizing three sources of funds indicated above for TOTAL

MAIN HALLWAY UPGRADE PROJECT COST of \$ 21,250. **MOTION** by Mike Epperly from Endowment **SECONDED** by John Osenbach **APPROVED**

3. **CHURCH GROWTH** - update by Rob Sandoval on the pictorial online directory proposing in bringing a 3rd party for the directory; using staff and/or volunteers was rejected due to the amount of work involved; look into other ministries and how they do it

4. Worship (Fall 2024 Schedule) beginning conversations about times; Worship team will be involved in decision making

VI. New Business

- Summer Breakfast Proceeds (Tanzania 2025) encourage mission teams to sign up for breakfasts, Council will sign up in July

VII. Next Meeting – Tuesday, June 18, 2024

- Assignment of Devotions for June by Katie Bashus

VIII. Closing Prayer (Pastor Tami)

IX. Adjourn at 9:21