

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES
FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 11, 2023

Present

Bill Alrich (President), Sandy Becker Stewardship), Retta Hennessy (Pre-School), Jen Bair (Service), Tammy Daugherty (Communications), Mark Pedersen (Property), Deb Twaddle (Worship), Tim Hohulin (Treasurer), Senior Pastor Shelly Satran, Joe/Kelly Parratore (Faith Formation), Gary Nelson (Secretary)

Absent

none

Excused

Guests

Jim Hall, Karen Finnerty, Beth Sells

Opening Devotions and Prayer

- Pastor Shelly

Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by President Bill Alrich at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

- **MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the Congregation Council meeting held on December 12, 2022. (Tim/Deb) **Carried.**

Consent Agenda

- **MOTION** To accept the reports of the Faith ministries and staff. (Gary/Jen) **Carried.**

Financial Report

- Regular envelopes were \$16.1k over budget, but \$8.3k below the prior year. Prior year December had several annual pledges that were received earlier this year.
- YTD regular envelopes were over budget by \$33.9k and were above the prior year by \$38.7k.
- Net loss was \$10.7k for the month, which is better than the budget by \$2.6k. The loss for the month is mainly attributable to a one-time compensation adjustment for the staff and the timing of local benevolence expensed in December.
- YTD "bottom line" results were above budget by \$68.6k due to total revenue exceeding budget by \$34k as well as lower expenses (lower salary/benefits, church operations and music. YTD results are better than the prior year by \$2.6k.
- Church maintenance and repairs were up during the month as an allocation was made to increase the capital maintenance fund on the balance sheet based on the annual budget.

Old Business

Search Committee

We are waiting for the Synod to send candidates.

Annual Meeting, Annual Reports

January 29, 2023. The meeting will be conducted in person and via live stream. Tammy and Pastor Shelly have been conducting tests of the equipment and developing a script for the meeting. All reports have been submitted.

New Business

Annual Budget - Tim

- Through November the financial results are positive due to revenues slightly exceeding the budget and significantly lower than planned expenses.
- Our cash balance is higher by \$177,000 as we did not incur significant cash outlays like we did in 2021 for the roof and the completion of the Building Life Safety project.
- We completed a very successful 75th Anniversary fundraiser with most of the funds being used to replace the flooring/carpeting in the sanctuary. Additionally, we donated \$10,000 to Lutheran Disaster Relief and contributed \$10,000 to the Faith Endowment fund.
- We replaced several air conditioner units which was partially funded with a portion of the 2022 year-end surplus.
- The 2023 budget assumes a 2.6% increase in regular envelope giving. For expenses, the budget includes a 5.5% COLA salary adjustment, assumes a new associate pastor is on board May 1, as includes higher maintenance expense related to the elevator and retention pond repair.
- **MOTION:** To approve the presentation of the Annual Budget at the Annual Congregation Meeting (Tammy/Retta) **Carried.**

2023 Council Meeting Schedule

- After discussion the decision was made to move Council Meetings to the second Tuesday of the month except for February due to Valentine's Day.

Property - Mark

- The roof over DuPage United leaked during a rainstorm in December. The rain was accompanied by severe wind. More recently, during heavy and prolonged rain, without severe wind, the roof has not leaked. This is the only section of our roof that was not replaced during the roof project.
- We are in the process of replacing the LED bulbs in our hanging sanctuary lights. We will try to do this in-house.
- Joe Malm and Will Pope are planning to repair the north choir loft door.
- A storage closet used by Rainbow Place has once again leaked water through ductwork. This long-standing problem is due to the raising of the grade years ago and the exhaust vent is now at or below grade. Greg Bates is going to disconnect the electric to the fan assembly, and I will then seal up the outside vent. This should permanently solve the issue.
- Our Winter project this year is going to be removing the wallpaper and repainting the hallway in the church office. Work assignments have yet to be determined.

Passing the Peace

- After discussion this item will be placed on the Agenda for February.

Staff Reports

Senior Pastor

- Ashley Zima has agreed to be our Summer Intern in a pilot program we hope to continue.

Next Executive Council Meeting – Tuesday, February 7, 2023, via Zoom @ 8:30am

Next Council Meeting— Monday, February 13, 2023, via Hybrid @ 7pm.

Closing Prayer

Pastor Shelly

Adjournment

- Bill adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Gary Nelson, Secretary