

## Congregation Council

Lutheran Church of the Nativity

Feb. 2016

**February 16, 2016 6:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Brian Johnson, Kirsten Cooper, Summer Covington, Cate Rhenev, Tim Feid, Ashley Hammack, Jennie Gillette, Brian Feid, Kathleen Treiber, Pr. Mark Fitzsimmons, Fred Park, Kent Oehm, Anne Schruckmayr, Mike Kestner, guests Cantor Karen Ives and Larry Rich.

**Absent:** Allen Ray

### I. GATHERING

- A. Review of Agenda:
- B. Sharing and opening prayer

**II. STUDY:** Worship: Cantor Karen Ives spoke to council in regards to the Worship Ministry. As Worship Director, Karen detailed the highlights from the 2015 year that included a ministry fair and four youth musicals. Sharing with council her ministry and all it has achieved the last year and all it plans to achieve this coming year, Cantor Karen Ives ended her time with council highlighting her dedicated work to the worship services of Nativity and the hard work of those who devote their time to the Worship Ministry and all it does.

### III. REPORTS and ACTION

- A. Updates to 7 - year time line/Vision 2020: No updates reported.
- B. Report from Governance: Governance reports two policies coming from the Finance Committee in need of approval. The policies are in regards to payments and credit card handling. The policies were passed to members of council for their examination and to be discussed for approval during the March council meeting.
- C. Report from Leadership: Leadership reports that the process for nominations began with the isolation of names for President and Vice President. Leadership indicates that those names will be published in an e-mail to be sent out Thursday. Nominating ballots will be available on February 14 for the election of President and Vice President of the council.
- D. Report from Fiduciary: No new updates
- E. Report from Mission/Vision: No new updates
- F. Report from Call Committee: Having completed 9 hours of training with a Synod representative, a mock interview was held with Pastor Doug Kearney. In January, the Call Committee met with the liaison from the Bishop's staff in which the first set of names were presented for examination. Interview dates have been arranged and confirmed.
- G. Annual Meeting Agenda: Council moved through the proposed agenda for the Annual Meeting to be held February 21, 2016. The meeting shall begin with the receiving of the annual reports, the election of delegates to the NC Synod, an update of the land use/sale, and an update on from the Call Committee.
- H. Action on 2015 Surplus: Finance showed a surplus of over \$10,000. Council began discussions on plans of action for the best use of the surplus. With giving having dropped beginning January of the 2015 year, the decrease continued the first few months of the year, with funds being borrowed from the Capital Reserve and internal funds. Mid-year the budget was modified \$565,000 with leadership and fiduciary taking a hit. Changes to staffing helped. November and December saw an increase in giving with a final number of \$575,000 for the year. Executive Committee met to discuss the surplus and isolated three possible options in

dealing with the surplus. The options presented to council were: 1) Save the money 2) Allocate the surplus 3) Recommend to the congregation to modify the budget to \$575,000. The Finance Committee recommended a 50/50 split in saving and allocating the surplus funds.

Council discussed the options, looking into other options as well. A recommendation to increase the giving goal to \$576,000, raising the overall budget to \$589,500 with \$42,950 in operating funds was presented to council and discussed. A motion to recommend to the congregation to modify the giving income to \$576,000 was put forward by Fred Park and seconded by Mike Kestner. In favor: 10. Against: 4. Motion carries.

- I. Action on Preschool and Kindergarten: options are being explored.
- J. Action on Modifying Roof Repairs: Mr. Larry Rich presented to Council a brief update on the roof, informing Council that the two major leaks (the bathtub leaks) have been repaired while weather delayed the finishing of the rest of the planned repairs. Having been approached by ServiceOne with a proposal for upgrading the proposed work with higher rated materials, increasing the insulation factor of the roof significantly and extending the 15 year warranty to 20 years for an additional \$6,000, Mr. Rich brought the information to council for discussion and approval. Council discussed. Motion to modify insulation by \$6300: Fred Park. Seconded by Kent Oehm. All in favor.
- K. Action on Audit Committee: The Audit Committee has requested the addition of Clement Hahn for a term of one year to the committee. Motion to approve Clement Hahn: Fred Park. Seconded by Tim Feid. All in favor.
- L. Appointment of the Mutual Ministry Committee: With Lamar McGinnis and Colleen Dieterly ending their terms with the Mutual Ministry Committee, both Pastor Mark Fitzsimmons and President Fred Park beseeched Council to approve reinstating both to the committee. Motion to approve reinstatement: Cate Rheney. Seconded by Brian Feid. All in favor.
- M. Action on Approving New Members: Billie Jean Flynn, Tony and Lilly Cruz, and Lonnie and Scottie Harris to be approved for membership. Motion to approve: Kent Oehm. Seconded by Kathleen Treiber. All in favor.
- N. Pastor's Report: Lent begins with a pancake supper held by Boy Scout Troop 8 on Shrove Tuesday. Ash Wednesday will see three services, ending with two Easter events to be held in conjunction with Calvary Episcopal. Pastor Mark reports his continuing ed experience as a professor at Southern has been a powerful learning experience for him as well as he devotes his time there on Thursday evenings.

#### **IV. SENDING**

*Meeting adjourned for work groups at 9:18 p.m.*

#### **V. WORK GROUPS**

- A. Governance
- B. Mission/Vision
- C. Leadership Development
- D. Fiduciary

*Meeting officially adjourned at 9:30 p.m.*