

Congregation Council

Lutheran Church of the Nativity

January 2016

January 11, 2016 6:30 p.m.

Present: Allen Ray, Kirsten Cooper, Pastor Mark Fitzsimmons, Fred Park, Brian Johnson, Kathleen Treiber, Brian Feid, Jennie Gillette, Mike Kestner, Kent Oehm, Summer Covington, Cate Rheney, Anne Shruckmayr, Tim Feid, Ashley Hammack, guest Randy Treiber

Absent: Youth Representative

I. GATHERING

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

II. STUDY: Allen Ray and Committee: Mr. Allen Ray and Randy Treiber, representing the Land Sale/Use Charter Committee presented to Council their findings in regards to the exploration of the feasibility of relocating the church. The findings represented information the committee gathered from subject matter experts that detailed the potential pros and cons of relocation.

III. REPORTS and ACTION

- A. **Updates to 7 - year time line/Vision 2020:** No current updates. An update to the 7 year time line/Vision 2020 will be given at the February Annual Meeting.
- B. **Governance:** No current updates. Still waiting on a revised offering policy.
- C. **Leadership:** No current updates.
- D. **Fiduciary:** No current updates.
- E. **Report from Mission/Vision:** No current updates
- F. **Financial Report:** The 2015 year began with \$31,000 in funds and ended with \$42,000, leaving an \$11,000 surplus. Staff has done a great job with their expenses. The Capital Improvement Fund has grown to \$72,000. Preschool is behind, falling short of its initial giving goal for the year. Preschool director, Janine Webb, is working with Jen Loizzo and Gene Hoemann to work on the preschool budget and expenses. The current loan payoff is slated for April of 2018. Discussion for use of the surplus began, acknowledging areas in the budget that were cut that could be reinstated with use of the surplus monies. At this time, Council has agreed to revisit the surplus in February before the Annual Meeting. Council also agreed to leave the current budget as is at this time.
- G. **Action on Removal of Names from Church Roster:** No names that qualify this year.
- H. **Schedule for 2016 Elections:** This year will see nominations and elections for President and Vice President in addition to 4 council persons. The names of those nominated for President and Vice President will be published two weeks before the election. February 14 sees the nominating ballot for President and Vice President with that election occurring on March 13. Names for Council election will be published March 27 with that election occurring April 10. Motion to approve the schedule: Allen Ray. Seconded by Mike Kestner. Vote to approve: Unanimous.
- I. **2016 Nominating Committee:** The names for the Nominating Committee for the 2016 Council Elections are as follows: Fred Park, Cate Rheney (chair), Kirsten Cooper, Kent Oehm, Summer Covington, Doug Martin, Lisa Hamilton, and Brian Johnson. Motion to approve Nominating Committee: Cate Rheney. Seconded by Tim Feid. Vote to approve: Unanimous.
- J. **Next Steps in Decision Making Process for Land Sale/Use:** Council recognizes that the first step is to provide the information provided by the Land Sale/Use Charter to the congregation at the annual meeting in February. Being incumbent upon council to make the recommendation in terms of either pursuing the sale of Nativity or not, Council reviewed the information shared by the committee. In its discussion, Council looked at what would be needed at a new facility if sale was pursued and what would be needed at the current facility, recognizing that should a decision be made to stay at the current facility; a study would

continue to look at what is needed at our current location. Examining the options before them, Council recommends that, at this time, based on the findings of the charter's study, relocation is not a financially prudent decision and therefore will not continue in that direction. Motion to approve recommendation: Fred Park. Seconded by Kirsten Cooper. Vote to approve recommendation to not proceed with sale: Unanimous.

- K. **Pastor's Report:** Some staffing changes have been made in terms of the Pastoral Associate with Pastor Steve Ridenhour coming on to fill that role. He will be on call all day Thursdays while Pastor Mark is teaching at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. Pastor Ridenhour and his wife, LaRue, will reside in the parsonage with the understanding that their tenancy will end at the appointment of a second pastor. Pastor Mark notes that this is a transitional year with staff changes and council elections, as he acknowledges President Fred Park and Vice President Cate Rheney for their hard work and dedication to the Council.

Council Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. for work groups.

IV. SENDING

V. WORK GROUPS

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:00p.m.