

Tree of Life Lutheran Church

Council Minutes

April 12, 2017

Members present – President - Dennis McConnell, Vice President – Jack Zimmer, Treasurer – Jim Voelz, , Financial Secretary – Heidi Beckham, Secretary – Linda Baumgartner, Pastor Chris Lake, and council members at large -Lawrence Zuehlke Chuck Will, George Timmins, and Kirk Helberg.

Members absent – Secretary – Linda Baumgartner

Guests – Staff members - Bunny Stoutes, office manager, Ryan Dockery, youth director and Carrie Peterson, & Daphne Cox.

Meeting was called to order by President Dennis McConnell at 7:05

- A. The meeting began with an opening prayer by Pastor Chris.
  
- B. Consent Agenda – **motion** to approve agenda was made by Chuck Will and seconded by Jack Zimmer. Motion carried.
  1. Adopt tonight's agenda
  2. Ratify new members – Gayle Merrell, Doris Hoffman, Renee Sorensen, & Breann Cartwright
  
- C. Discussion Agenda
  1. Old Business – Motions
    - A. Review: Strategic plan update- Jack Zimmer attached copies for review.
    - B. Review: Financial governance approved sending letter of explanation of changes to all present counters. Target start for 3 counters is May, especially when 2 counters are related. Review Policies & Procedures (P&P) for counters. Jim & Heidi will present P&P next council meeting.
    - C. Ability to text a dollar amount to Tree of Life available. Will continue to try to understand how it all works. Then share with congregation.
    - D. Review: Temporary name badges: Agreed to use a Temporary badge: Plastic Pin On. New member can then purchase the magnetic style.
  2. New Business –

A. Daphne Cox requested that the Congregational meeting be moved from April 23 to another date because this is Pastor Chris' going away party/celebration lunch. Jack Zimmer amends motion to move Congregational meeting from 4/23 to 5/21 & Kirk Helberg seconds. Motion carries. Approved by all present.

B. **Motion:** Ryan Dockery will have Pastoral vote while Pastor Chris Lake is on Sabbatical. Motion: Kirk Helberg Second Heidi Beckham. Approved by Council.

C. Review New Summer worship service/ style/ communion wine. First service is June 7. Every Wednesday Acoustic Worship in the Fellowship Hall. Meant to be very interactive and a relaxed atmosphere. Worship time possible name presented was Fed at the Well. No action taken.

D. Review Stewardship plans for 2017. Kirk Helberg volunteered to assist Jack Zimmer with the strategic planning. Discussion of where to place the Stewardship campaign in the church calendar discussed and will be reviewed further to set dates. Start early September.

### 3. Financial Reports

- a. A separate checking account has been established for Tree of Life's sabbatical fund for Pastor Chris. Pastor Chris has a separate credit card to use for purchases. He will return all receipts in a timely manner. The signers of the checks are Linda Baumgartner; grant administrator and either Jim Voelz or Dennis McConnell.
- b. Contributions – Currently, the contributions are at 83% of budget with a shortfall of 11% YTD. 5.5% below budget expenditures. For a 5.5% short fall.
- c. No borrowing from SEEDS in 1<sup>st</sup> quarter for operating expenses. Funds were borrowed from Seeds to prepay camp deposits for a savings of \$600. Funds to be repaid from garage sale proceeds.

### 4. Pastor's Report –

A. Doyle Ebel- passed away. His service was wonderful with full military & fired department honors.

B. Slack App- tells us what we're doing in house to keep up with folks and their needs. Ryan & Carrie are doing a wonderful job with this.

5. Having completed the agenda items at 9:30, the meeting was adjourned and all members recited the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

George Timmins, Substitute Secretary