

Tree of Life Congregational Meeting Minutes
December 22, 2019

President Jack Zimmer called the meeting to order at 9:22 am. Quorum was established and Pastor Chris Lake led with an opening prayer.

I. Lisa Lemaux moved to approve the minutes from the October 6, 2019 Congregation meeting. Deb Zimmer seconded. All were in favor and the **motion passed**.

II. Treasurer Jim Voelz gave the Financial Report. We hope to have recommendations from the 2018 Audit in January, 2020. Budget details through November 2019 were presented. Budgeted income was \$468,663 and actual income \$460,580 (\$8083 under budget). Our budgeted expenses were \$502,939 and actual expenses \$472,670 (\$30,269 under budget). With Year End Projections anticipate revenue of \$515,000 and expenses of \$516,210, with an anticipated shortfall of \$1210. This assumes traditionally good revenue for December. Our total Dedicated Funds balance is \$104,076, which includes an Internship endowment of \$6435. Pastor Chris Lake moved to **accept the Treasurer's report**. Annette Chapman seconded. All were in favor and the **motion passed**.

Stewardship Chairman Jim Lemaux reviewed our fall campaign, focused on "inspiring all people in Christ's Love". The goal for the 2019 fall campaign was to better align stewardship with our TOL Mission, reflected by video interviews with four TOL members. Jim Lemaux encouraged any feedback and more participation in the video "Temple Talks". The Stewardship Committee is asking again this year for a specific time frame as far as a tithe commitment is concerned, noting this can be done anytime during the year, not just the fall campaign. Jim Lemaux reported estimated giving for 2020: \$378,160 from 71 pledges and about \$96000 from non-pledged giving, totalling \$474,162.

Treasurer Jim Voelz gave the 2020 Budget presentation. Extensive work has been done on the 2020 budget since August 2019 and will be submitted to the Congregation for approval at the January 19, 2020 Annual meeting. The budget anticipates that expenditures will increase by about \$19,000, \$17,000 going to staff salary increases and the mortgage increase of \$6000. We have anticipated about the same shortfall in 2020 (\$23,884) as anticipated in 2019 (\$23,553). Scott Chapman asked if there was any major expense anticipated. President Zimmer replied that we have successfully addressed all AC repairs, not including our largest unit (30 tons) but it is not in trouble. Richard Shaper (Maintenance Team) affirmed this as well. Sue Kollar asked about a line item referring to an IRS penalty. Pastor Lake explained that a number of years back, W-2 forms were inadvertently not mailed on time; our penalty is \$100 per month and we are about halfway through paying it off. Linda Bliese moved to **accept the 2020 Budget for submission**; Russ Bliese seconded. All were in favor and the **motion passed**.

III. Pastor Chris Lake reported good news. Vicar Carrie Petersen has a clean pathology report following her surgery in November. Youth Director Bunny Stoutes passed candidacy

approval with flying colors and continues in her pastoral training. Pastor Lake complimented her Youth ministry program as grounded and growing, with credit to her and to the congregation for a successful spring garage sale to help fund these efforts. Bunny Stoutes adds that we will need continuing help to get our youth to the Youth Gathering in 2021.

IV. President Zimmer reported that the Nomination Committee recommended the following persons to fill 3 open Council positions in January 2020: Tom Gros, David Fischer, and Jim Lemaux. Jack Zimmer is nominated as President for another 2-year term and Kevin Solberg as Vice-President. President Zimmer concluded with thanks to Linda Baumgartner, Kirk Helberg, and Annie Lindemann for their service on the Council.

V. President Zimmer previewed the 2020 Agenda:

- A. Finalize the 2020 Budget with congregational approval
- B. Review, revise, and continue the current Strategic Plan
- C. Consider a proposal from Tillman Academy.

Treasurer Jim Voelz thanked Heidi Beckham and Ted Dinklage for their continuing good work on the Finances and Budget.

Pastor Chris Lake led in closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 10:04 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Susie Rust
Council Secretary