

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

April 10, 2018

Members Present: Jenifer Haler, Dave Larkin, Todd Maier, Jeff Pilger, Tom Pitkin, Andy Ribbing, Pastor Corey Smith and Ted Stuenkel

Members Absent: Pastor Steve Ernst, Janet Budzeck, Darrell Miles

Guests: Amanda Daniels, Pam Hedges, Daniel Miles

Opening: The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at 7:03 p.m. and opened by the president, Dave Larkin. Andy Ribbing provided the devotions and prayer.

Communications/Visitor Comments: Tom Pitkin will be providing a facility walk-down on Sunday, April 15 at 10:00am for anyone who would like to attend.

REPORTS:

1. **Confirmation Program Report:** Amanda Daniels reported on the activities of the Confirmation Task Force. The group has been meeting to look at improvements to our confirmation program. With the research they've conducted, they are looking to implement the following changes:
 - a. Transition to confirming individuals at high school ages rather than in middle school. Confirmation has historically been in the fall of the youth's 9th grade. The plan is to confirm in the spring of their 10th grade year.
 - b. Actively move towards more parental and small group/mentor involvement. Statistics show parental involvement increases chances that confirmands continue in church life after confirmation.
 - c. Middle school activities would still continue and would initiate mentor involvement so they would be familiar with the process when they begin formal confirmation later.
 - d. Implementation is expected to roll out Fall, 2018 (after this current class). Also, there will be flexibility by individual, especially during the transition period.

2. **President's Report:** Dave commented Karen Gardner had formally accepted the Council's offer as Interim Associate Pastor during Pastor Steve Ernst's upcoming sabbatical. He also mentioned he'd received word from Jon Erlandson that the cost of hosting a 2nd Harvest event had been raised from \$500 to \$2000, making it cost prohibited to perform the service. But he encouraged members could still serve at other locations when they occur.

3. **Lead Pastor's Report:** No Report
4. **Associate Pastor's Report:** Pastor Corey shared information on the following:
 - a. Recommending a combined service on May 20th to include confirmation and New Members.
 - b. Good News Media Ministry (GNMM) has determined that their gift/offering support is dramatically down. They may only be able to function for five more years. They are taking action to address this.
5. **Finance Report:** Jeff Pilger commented on the monthly income Statement as of March 31, 2018. See attached report.
 - a. Tom Pitkin asked about Reserve Accounts status, Jeff is going to review and report back.
 - b. Jeff is going to add a "Parking Lot" line into the report so it's visible.

ACTION ITEMS:

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously approving the following without discussion:

- Reapprove the Benevolence Policy, as is
- Reapprove the Transportation Policy, as is

New Business:

1. A discussion was held related to the minutes of the March 13, 2018 regular council meeting. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously approving the minutes with the wording changes to the electronic reader board motion (as defined in the March 21st email from Tom Pitkin).
2. The proposed reader board activities were discussed. RLC Foundation has agreed to cover up to \$45,000 of the cost of purchase and installation.
 - a. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously authorizing the signing of the contract with Quality Sign Services to purchase and install the sign.
 - b. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously approving \$10,000 from memorial funds to be used to complete the funding.
3. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously approving the combining of all services on May 20th.

Bylaw/Policy Review: The following policies addressed:

- Tom Pitkin led a discussion on extensive changes to the Adjacent Properties Policy. A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the policy with the changes.

- A motion was made, seconded and passed reapproving the Cell Phone Policy without changes.
- A motion was made, seconded and passed reapproving the Funding, Money Gathering & Membership Lists Policy without changes
- The Gift Acceptance Policy review was postponed until next month. Notations and comments made last year by Jeff Sperline need to be considered more closely.
- A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the Internal Audit Policy with suggested changes
- A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the Urgent Assistance Policy with editorial changes
- A discussion was held regarding Bylaws, Chapter 7-12. There were no recommended changes.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Dave presented a form related to “Memorial Opportunity List”. Lila Lloyd is assembling a list of opportunities to be considered this year. She is looking for input by the end of April.

Adjournment: Dave adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m. and council members joined hands to close with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Todd Maier, Member-at-Large