

## **RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES**

**August 14, 2018**

**Members Present:** Janet Budzeck, Jenifer Haler, Reverend Karen Gardner, Dave Larkin, Todd Maier, Darrell Miles, Andy Ribbing, Pastor Corey Smith and Ted Stuenkel

**Members Absent:** Pastor Steve Ernst (on sabbatical), Jeff Pilger and Tom Pitkin

**Visitors:** Jason Archibald, Jeanne Dillner, Pete and Joan Mattich and Loren Schmidt

**Opening:** The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. and opened by the president, Dave Larkin. Devotions and prayer were provided by Andy Ribbing.

### **REPORTS:**

1. **LCMC-NW Gathering:**

Pete Mattich provided copies of the schedule and budget for the LCMC-NW Gathering scheduled for May 3-4, 2019. He gave a synopsis of who the guest speakers will be, what they will be talking about and what the seminars will focus on. The theme for the event is 'My Feet Are on the Rock'.

2. **Communications/Visitor Comments:**

Loren Schmidt commented on the decision that was made when the adjacent properties were originally purchased to keep all activity associated with the adjacent properties separate from Richland Lutheran Church operations. He cautioned the council to make sure to keep the adjacent properties as a separate entity.

3. **Presidents Report:** Dave commented on his activities while he was on vacation and thanked Jenifer for filling in for him while he was gone. He remarked that the gift policy and financial policy posted on the web site needed small corrections made to them and advised that MALT team night is this coming Thursday beginning at 6:30 p.m.

4. **Staff Reports:**

Lead Pastor's Report – Pastor Corey: Council members stated they had no comments on the information provided in the report, which covered topics such as Worship Ministry, Pastoral Acts, Christian Service Ministry and Middle School and High School Ministry.

Pastor Gardner remarked she has been working with Elaine Keyes to compile a complete list of Visitation Ministry contacts and visitors. Elaine will be responsible for the organization portion of this ministry and maintain the visitation database.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Consent Agenda:**

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

- Approved the minutes of the July 10, 2018 regular council meeting
- Approved recording in the meeting minutes council's approval by e-mail to authorize repairs up to \$3,000.00 plus tax at the 1515 Kimball Avenue house

**Old Business:**

Adjacent Properties Ministry Team: council approved turning this responsibility over to the MALT Stewardship Team to implement and choose team members.

Scholarship Awards: Todd discussed the status of the 2018 scholarship process. There were seven applicants whose essays were ranked by an independent panel. Before any scholarships can be awarded, council approval for the total dollar amount for the year is needed. A motion was made, seconded and passed approving a total of \$3,000.00 for 2018 scholarships. A motion, was made, seconded and passed approving the award of one of the Gary Lucke scholarships in the amount of \$500.00 to the granddaughter of the scholarship honoree. Todd asked that pastoral staff and the executive council evaluate whether to present the Mark Black award, as that will impact how other scholarships are awarded. Options were presented for that award. Follow up is expected in the next week or two.

**New Business:**

Financial Audit committee Report Findings/Recommendations: As spokesman for the Audit Committee, Jason Archibald stated all was in good order and there were no blemishes with regard to the financial records of Richland Lutheran Church. The following were suggested recommendations for future improvement:

- a. make sure the safe is not unlocked and the collection is not provided until both unrelated counters are present
- b. church council review the statement in the RLC Finance Handbook with regard to selling stock as soon as it becomes the property of the church and determine if the current stocks owned by RLC should be sold
- c. make sure that two individuals from RLC are present when meeting with the Wells Fargo representative to review the church's portfolio
- d. church council contact a Certified Public Accountant to find out the impact the new tax law has on rentals, etc.
- e. church council appoint an individual to oversee and report to the council the status of revenue/expenses of the rental houses

It was suggested that the Wells Fargo representative or an RLC investment representative be invited to a future council meeting, as well as a representative from EverStar, the company that manages RLC's adjacent properties.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

A quilt made by Rachel Ribbing was given to Pastor Gardner in recognition and thanks for her invaluable pastoral assistance while Pastor Ernst was on sabbatical.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

An executive session was held to discuss the following topics:

1. Council policy violations
2. Revised Salary plan
3. 2019 Staff salary recommendations

**Adjournment:** Dave adjourned the meeting at 9:55 p.m. and council members joined hands to close with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Janet R. Budzeck