

## RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

February 11, 2020

**Members Present:** Diane Bonin, Janet Budzeck, Pastor Steve Ernst, Jenifer Haler, Jim Honeyman, Fred Kremmer, Kiane Lesser, Bill Peterson, Valerie Silva, Pastor Corey Smith and Sandy Steele

**Visitors:** No visitors were present.

### **Opening:**

1. The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. and opened by the president, Sandy Steele. Devotions and prayer were provided by Kiane.

### **STAFF REPORTS:**

1. **Lead Pastor's Report** – Pastor Steve commented on his 2019 Year End report and said God is working through us in the right direction with small steps making Richland Lutheran Church a healthier congregation. He reported an eviction notice had been delivered to the tenants at 1516-1518 Stevens as they had not vacated the premises by January 31, 2020. The tenants at 1517 Kimball will be out by the end of February. Diane and Kiane as members of Spiritual Growth stated for the Pancake Dinner on February 25<sup>th</sup> those wanting to help set up would need to be at the church by 4:00 p.m. Pastor Steve gave an example of how Amanda Daniels with Youth & Family Ministry is practicing the Great Commission in her everyday life by 'going out' into the world to disciple others.

2. **Associate Pastor's Report** – Pastor Corey commented he has developed the 2020 Lenten Services criteria with the theme of "Shadows of the Cross" and will be starting "The Prayer Course" on April 15<sup>th</sup> to help people understand the what, why, where and how of prayer. With regard to Jenny Page's Worship Report, he stated new banners for the sanctuary have been purchased with donated funds and the current banners will be used in the chapel. In the Christian Service Ministry report, Kelly Westlund wrote they continue to work on a tour of the Union Gospel Mission and possibly providing some meals. This team is also talking about how to make the food pantry area an intentional space for sharing the gospel and prayer to those who come for food. Also included in this report, Pastor Corey shared that the Chaplaincy and Grace Clinic have offered to provide guidance on end-of-life issues and they are willing to train individuals to help in this area.

3. **Financial Report** - Bill provided an update from last month's report and stated N.W. CPA has been working with Lisa Wiegand to provide her with a better knowledge of how Quick Books works. Bill also provided a Restricted Gifts Report that the Finance Committee will be working on to redistribute the funds where the designation no longer is valid. Jenifer shared that for Thrivent members who are a member of Piton will have fewer Choice Dollars to direct going forward to non-profits, depending on their portfolio.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the following without discussion:

1. Approve the minutes from the regular January 14, 2020, council meeting.
2. Approve Rich Olsen to serve on the Audit Committee for a two year term (2020-2022).
3. Approve Richland Lutheran Church membership for Daniel, Andrea and Dominic Britton and Beth Banzhof.

**Old Business:**

1. Sunday, March 8, 2020, Retreat Center Funds information meeting between services. Council members shared comments from the February 9<sup>th</sup> information meeting.
2. March 15, 2020, Special Congregational meeting to vote on Retreat Center Funds. Sandy will provide an agenda at the March council meeting.
3. Biblical Stewardship MALT meeting report – Jim and Bill commented on their meeting with Russ Warren to review the Facilities Strategic Plan and plan for the next steps.
4. Identify committee members to fill committee vacancies. A motion was made and seconded approving Jean Dillner to serve a two year term and Val Silva to complete the one year term Sandy Steele vacated to serve on council. With no discussion, the motion passed. Council members then suggested names of individuals and volunteered to contact them to serve on the Facilities Fund Raising Committee, the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee or the 2020 Visioning Team.

**New Business:**

1. Constitution and Bylaws assignments – Sandy distributed copies of council assignments. Five (5) chapters will be discussed at each of the next few council meetings with the entire review to be completed by the end of June.
2. Scholarship Policy – Sandy questioned whether or not the current policy fits our mission and vision for Richland Lutheran Church. Pastor offered to work with the scholarship committee to review the policy and provide a revised policy to the council for approval.
3. 2020 Visioning Team – Pastor Steve had provided earlier via e-mail a copy of the background, purpose and process of the visioning team. After discussing the vision, council members suggested adding MALT Team conversations to the process. A motion was then made and seconded approving the 2020 Visioning Team. With no further discussion, the motion passed.
4. Facilities Fundraising Committee Charter – After discussing the current charter, Bill volunteered to work with the committee to review and revise the charter for future approval by the council.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

1. Select 2021 Nominating Committee candidates – Keep in Prayer
2. March 10<sup>th</sup> council devotions – Valerie
3. February 15<sup>th</sup> Preview – Kiane; March 15<sup>th</sup> Preview – Val
4. February 22<sup>nd</sup> Conflict Resolution Workshop from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
5. February 25<sup>th</sup> Shrove Tuesday – staff and council host at 6:00 p.m.
6. February MALT meetings: Worship on Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.; Spiritual Growth on Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.; Christian Service on February 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. and Biblical Stewardship on Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.
7. March 8<sup>th</sup> – question and answer meeting during Hebrews Café on distribution of Retreat Center Funds.
8. Record Lenten devotions: March 9<sup>th</sup> – Jenifer, March 16<sup>th</sup> – Diane, March 17<sup>th</sup> – Bill, March 27<sup>th</sup> – Fred and March 30<sup>th</sup> – Kiane
9. March 15<sup>th</sup> – Special Congregational meeting to vote on Retreat Center Funds.
10. March 19<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m. (council hosting).

**ADJOURN:**

Sandy adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m. Council members joined hands to close with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Janet R. Budzeck