

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

July 10, 2018

Members Present: Janet Budzeck, Jenifer Haler, Reverend Karen Gardner, Todd Maier, Darrell Miles, Jeff Pilger, Tom Pitkin, Andy Ribbing, Pastor Corey Smith and Ted Stuenkel

Members Absent: Pastor Steve Ernst (on sabbatical) and Dave Larkin

Visitors: Jerry Dagle, Jay Dickson, Shirley Fast, Elaine Keyes, Sandy Steele, Russ Warren, Gary Weible and Vernon Packard

Opening: The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. and opened by the vice president, Jenifer Haler. Devotions and prayer were provided by Jeff Pilger.

REPORTS:

1. **Communications/Visitor Comments:**

Update on electronic sign – Jay stated that the frame for the sign is currently being painted, the sign itself will be shipped from back East on July 18th and plans are to have it installed by July 24th. All required permits are in place and all work is being performed to code.

Vernon suggested that 24/7 prayer sessions be scheduled for the mission teams while they are gone.

Nominations Committee – Russ reported the committee started meeting on January 22nd and have been meeting at least every other week since then. They have been prayerfully reviewing the required process to choose members of the congregation to fill future vacant council positions using the RLC Resource Guide and the Sticky Teams book as resources. Council members joined the committee members in prayer for guidance in performing this ministry.

Staff meeting update – Jenifer commented that Pastor Corey will be on vacation next week, the August Preview deadline is July 16th and the September Preview deadline is August 6th. The church service this coming Sunday, July 15th will be the responsibility of the congregation youth.

NW LCMC District Gathering – Jenifer remarked two keynote speakers have been chosen for this May 3 & 4, 2019 gathering. The theme for the event will be “My Feet Are on the Rock” and details of the budget are nearing completion.

2. **Staff Reports:**

The following previously submitted reports were reviewed by council members:

- a. Interim Lead Pastor’s report

- b. Interim Associate Pastor report
- c. Biblical Stewardship report

Pastor Corey stated that Amanda Daniels is working to recruit and train volunteers for the upcoming school year to help with an after school program on Thursdays for middle school children.

3. **Financial Report:** Jeff reported funds were distributed for the electronic sign and the parking lot. See attached report. In response to council concern related to the percentage of benevolence already given this year, the appropriate MALT team will discuss this concern at their next meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

Consent Agenda:

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

- Approved the minutes of the June 12, 2018 regular council meeting
- Approved adding Darrell Miles as an additional member to the NW LCMC Gathering Committee

Ministry Matrix Policies to complete for 2018:

- ✓ Personnel Policy – Ted informed those present that a definition for a professional staff person had been added, as well as sick leave benefits for part-time employees as required by law. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve this policy as presented. Ted asked if future consideration should be given to having background checks for the elderly vulnerable population in our congregation as is currently being done for children. After brief discussion, it was decided to have the MALT team Grow consider this request.
- ✓ Facilities Maintenance Policy – Tom stated the requested changes from last month's council meeting had been made to the policy. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the policy as presented.

Lead Pastor Review – Ted provided a copy of the revised review to each council member and commented on the process that will be used in the future to evaluate the lead pastor. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the Lead Pastor Annual Review as submitted. Jenifer urged council members to read through the Tri-Annual Report previously submitted by Pastor Ernst.

Committee Selection Process – Jenifer suggested a new process be used to fill committee vacancies using the following outline: Committee Purpose and Charter, Council Prayer and Discernment, Council Selection and Selected Candidates Contacted. If the individual agrees to serve, then no further action will be taken, but if they decline then the executive committee

would be tasked to nominate additional candidates to contact with the approval of two executive committee members and pastoral counsel. A motion was made, seconded and passed approving this new process.

Adjacent Properties Ministry Team – Those members present requested discussion on this topic be tabled until the August council meeting. Tom, Jenifer and Lisa Wiegand were suggested as council representatives and staff to write a document for this team to be presented at the August council meeting for further action.

New Business:

Jenifer provided a list of goals and/or changes council would like MALT teams to consider when being disciples together. MALT Teams are: Worship, Steward, Grow and Serve. In preparation for the August council meeting, she encouraged members to prioritize their intentions.

Future council topics:

- Discipline Policy
- August devotions and August Preview – Tom (due July 15th)
- September devotions – Ted and September Preview – Jenifer (due August 16th)

Adjournment: Jenifer adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m. and council members joined hands to close with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Janet R. Budzeck