**RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES**

**June 14, 2016**

**Members Present:** Pastor Steve Ernst, Janet Budzeck, Bob Thompson, Todd Maier, Sarah Hagensen, Sandy Steele, Rick Snyder, Joel Sorensen

**Members Absent**: None

**Guests:**  Steve Moritz

The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held Tuesday, June 14, with President Bob Thompson opening the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Norm Gillette led opening devotions.

**Communications:**

* Pastor Ernst reported that a search committee for the part-time Youth Minister position has been formed and has begun reviewing considering applicants.
* Council discussed status of Scholarship Committee work. It was suggested the committee be invited to the next regular monthly Council meeting to discuss a path forward.
* Sandy Steele discussed a “Soul Care” program designed to support staff in their work of furthering the mission of Richland Lutheran Church. Council agreed that such a program should include not only the formal “staff” but also the many volunteers from the congregation. Ms. Steele will prepare a draft for Council members’ review.
* Mr. Thompson reported that Eric Schmieman has resigned from the Facilities Building Committee (FBC) effective with his leaving Richland Lutheran Church. Council will consult with the current FBC chair regarding identifying a replacement.
* Mr. Thompson reported that Mike Strasburg has resigned as a RLC Congregation Council member- at- large. Council will consider possible replacement candidates to fill the remainder of Mr. Strasburg’s term.

**Reports:**

Lead Pastor – Steve Ernst

We have begun our study of the book of Malachi at public worship. Feedback from the congregation regarding studying a book of Scripture during the summer months has been positive.

*Worship Attendance:*

May 2016 average: 304 (May 2015 average: 324)

2016 Year to Date (YTD) average: 319 (2015 YTD average:340)

*Baptisms*  May 1- Kathy Fisher; May 14- Sophia Buck and Layla Taft

*Weddings* May 21- Megan Hardman and Tim Orr

*Memorials* May 25- Inez Miller

Finance Report – Rick Snyder

**Monthly (as of April 2016)**

**2016 Budget 2016 Actual (Over)/Under Budget**

April Total Income $69,696 $57,921 $11,775

April Total Expense $78,795 $76,887 $ 1,908

**Year-to-Date (as of April 2016)**

**2016 Budget 2016 Actual (Over)/Under Budget**

Total YTD Income $254,470 $251,518 $2,952

Total YTD Expense $306,234 $287,865 $18,369

The draft report for May was also provided. A final version for May will be provided at the June regular monthly meeting.

**Action Items:**

1. Consent Agenda – Council approved the following without discussion
   1. April 2016 Financial Officer’s Report
   2. Minutes - May 2016 Regular Monthly Congregation Council meeting
2. Saturday Evening Service –Council approved a proposal to move the Saturday evening service to Sunday evenings beginning as soon as practicable. Council members will attend the July 16 Saturday night service to explain the change to attendees.
3. Annual Richland Lutheran Church Constitution and By-Law Review – Most have been reviewed. Council will meet on July 16 prior to the Saturday night service noted above to review remaining policies and revise as needed.
4. Council discussed updates to the Guide and Vision and approved the following changes:
   1. Reword the final item under Objective 6 to read as follows: “If a Facilities Strategic Plan is approved by the Congregation, develop necessary activities to implement provisions included therein.
   2. Change the cover to read “Updated 2016”.

**Ministry Emphasis –** Steve Moritz described how he and Debbie are restructuring Richland Lutheran Church’s food pantry mission.

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**Adjournment:** President Bob Thompson adjourned the meeting and closed with the Lord’s Prayer at 9:38 pm.