

## RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

March 12, 2019

**Members Present:** Diane Bonin, Janet Budzeck, Pastor Steve Ernst, Jenifer Haler, Jim Honeyman, Dave Larkin, Jeff Pilger, Valerie Silva and Pastor Corey Smith

**Absent:** Kiane Lesser and Darrell Miles

**Visitors:** Dan Jordheim and Ted Steunkel, representatives from the Retreat Center Committee

**Opening:** The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. and opened by the president, Dave Larkin. Devotions and prayer were provided by Valerie Silva.

### **REPORTS:**

1. **Communications/Visitor Comments:** Ted Steunkel and Dan Jordheim provided an update to the council on the Retreat Center Committee's deliberations concerning the appropriate usage for the Retreat Center funds. The committee members agreed that entities which provide a service to Richland Lutheran Church or the community and could make a positive difference in their lives or in their relationship with God met the original intent of the contributions. A recommended list of entities that would receive these funds and the amount they would receive was given to the council members. After reviewing the list, a motion was made, seconded and passed accepting the committee's report and approving their recommendation. Final approval for the distribution of these funds will take place at the next congregational meeting. Council members extended appreciation to the committee, which includes Ted and Dan, as well as Erlan Leitz, Joanne Woehle and Lisa Corning.
2. **Presidents Report:** Dave provided information on the Salvation Army building that will be closing the end of May. He also commented on the meeting with Piton Wealth representative Michelle Clary on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. and the meeting with James Utz, the Wells Fargo representative for Richland Lutheran Church, on Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. to discuss our church's investments.
3. **Staff Reports:**  
Lead Pastor's Report – Pastor Steve commented on the following:
  - Changes to the Snow Closure Procedure, which permit the pastors to make changes on an as needed basis
  - Ash Wednesday service was streamed, permitting 22 households to watch the service
  - Informed neighbors on Kimball and Stevens that they could park their vehicles in RLC's parking lot due to the snow in the streets

- Men's Ministry Team will be hosting a couple of Hebrews Café's starting in April

Associate Pastor's Report – Pastor Corey commented a new format will be used for the Lenten services. He also met with the Visual Arts Ministry Team to discuss the materials that will be used for the new hallway display and he continues to work on service coverage while he is on sabbatical.

4. **Financial Report:** Jeff reviewed the report and responded to questions asked by council members. He asked for guidance in providing a Balance Sheet that better reflects RLC funds.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

##### **Consent Agenda:**

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

1. Council meeting minutes for February 18, 2019
2. Approve the First Quarter Benevolence gifts of \$10,733.50 to the District LCMC and \$15,000.00 to the National LCMC.
3. Approve having a single combined worship service at 10:00 a.m. on June 9, 2019 in celebration of Pentecost.

##### **Old Business:**

1. During discussion on the Cell Phone Policy, Pastor Steve remarked the church no longer provides cell phones for their employees. In light of this statement, a motion was made, seconded and passed approving the deletion of the Cell Phone Policy as obsolete.
2. A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the Common Consent Policy as presented.
3. A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the Council Self-Governance Policy as presented.
4. A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the Council/Staff Relations Policy as presented.
5. After discussing the Funding, Money Gathering Policy, a motion was made, seconded and passed approving tabling this policy until the April council meeting.
6. Council members approved moving discussion of the Executive Limitations Policy to the April council meeting.
7. After completing discussion on the Transportation Policy, a motion was made, seconded and passed approving the Transportation Policy with the recommended changes.
8. A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the Weddings Policy with changes as presented.

**New Business:**

1. A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the job description provided by Pastor Corey for the Interim Praise Band Lead, who will serve during Pastor Corey's sabbatical.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

1. Council members will host the Lenten soup supper on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
2. Council Action list as provided by Dave
3. MALT meetings – Christian Service on March 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m., Worship on March 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m., Stewardship on March 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. and Spiritual Growth on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.
4. Team Night schedule provided by Dave
4. Discussion centered on whether or not to continue the Council Shepherd's meeting, but no decision was reached. Scheduling time to meet seemed to be the major problem.
5. Executive Committee meeting will be on Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m. and the next council meeting is set for Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Dave called an executive session to order at 9:18 p.m. to discuss staff evaluations and hiring part time employees during Pastor Corey's sabbatical. The session ended at 9:55 p.m. and the regular council meeting was called to order.

**CLOSING:**

Dave adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m. and council members joined hands to close with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Janet R. Budzeck