

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

April 13, 2021

Members Present: Sandy Steele, Pastor Steve Ernst, Joel Sorensen, Bill Peterson, Valerie Silva, Kristen Imhoff, Jan Leitz, Jeanne Dillner, Fred Kremmer and Diane Bonin.

Opening: The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via 'Zoom' due to the Corona Virus pandemic quarantine and opened by the president, Sandy Steele. Devotions and prayer were provided by Kristen.

Staff Reports:

1. **President's Report:** Sandy reported the audit committee has now been activated, and we now have three teams activated: nomination committee, audit committee, and staff compensation committee. Please keep all these teams in prayer.
2. **Lead Pastor report:**
 - a. Pastor Steve reported that offices are now open, and the first in-person staff meeting occurred today and went well.
 - b. Pastor thanked the technicians that helped to make sure things ran smoothly over holy week.
3. **Financial Report:** Bill reported that the Year- to- Date Income is \$230,213.00; our Budget is \$209,665.00; Expenses of \$197,641.00; with Gain/(loss) \$32,572.00. March monthly Giving was down to \$68.8K, with a need to average ~\$80K to meet Annual Budget projections.

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made to accept the consent agenda items without discussion by Fred and seconded by Bill. These items were approved by the Council.

1. **Approve regular Council Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2021**
2. **Approve John Umbarger as member of Finance Committee.**

Old Business:

1. **75th Anniversary Planning Status:** Kristen reported on the committee's progress as to the celebration on October 9 and 10, with a box type dinner planned, and candlelight worship service on Sunday.
2. **Facilities Strategic Planning Implementation Team:** This team is being placed on hold until a ministry and mission needs assessment is completed.

3. **Plasma Filtration System vs. UV Filtration System:** Bill reported on research into air purification systems. Two main types are available: Bipolar ionization and UV, with a third type being a hybrid of the two. Bill has sent the information to the COVID team for their consideration.
4. **Review Adjacent Properties Policy** – Fred Kremmer/Kristen Imhoff: This policy is currently with the Biblical Stewardship MALT for direction and action.
5. **Review Soul Care Policy** – Diane Bonin/Val Silva This policy is currently with the Spiritual Growth MALT for direction and action.

New Business:

1. **Worship Services-return to three worship services beginning-June 6, 2021-Traditional at 8:30 am, Contemporary at 11 am, and 5 pm, informal service.**
A motion was made by Jeanne to return to the three worship services on June 6, seconded by Val, the motion was carried after discussion.
2. **Discuss/Approve Ministry and Mission Strategic Planning Team and charter to replace the 2020 Visioning Team:** This item was tabled until May. Members were asked for prayer and discernment.
3. **Review Council/Staff Relations** – Sandy Steele/Diane Bonin: Sandy explained that this policy can be deleted, as some of the policy is procedural and covered elsewhere, and the section of Congregation Council/Staff Relationship Guide is being moved to the Council Governance Policy. A motion was made by Joel, seconded by Jeanne and motion carried to delete this policy.
4. **Review Council Self Governance Policy** – Sandy Steele/Joel Sorensen: The policy has been revised with the inclusion of the Congregation Council/Staff Relationship Guide section from the policy listed above. A motion was made by Bill to approve the policy as revised, seconded by Jan and motion carried.
5. **Review Executive Limitations** – Sandy Steele/Joel Sorensen: This policy was recommended to be deleted by the reviewers since the information is covered in the Constitution, By-laws and some items will be moved to the Personnel policy and Finance policy. The motion to delete this policy was made by Diane, seconded by Kristen and motion approved.
6. **Review Facility Maintenance & Modification** – Fred Kremmer/Kristen Imhoff: This policy was sent to be reviewed by the Biblical Stewardship MALT.
7. **Review Facilities Use** – Diane Bonin/Val Silva: This policy will need to go to the Biblical Stewardship MALT for additional wording concerning health-related practices.

Information Items:

1. Devotions – Fred Kremmer May 11
2. Preview Article due to Kelly – Kristen April 15; Fred Kremmer May15
3. Scholarship Policy – Prayer and discernment period
4. Policy Review May 11 – Financial Policy; Funding, Money Gathering & Membership Lists; Gift Acceptance; Investment Strategy
5. March MALT Meetings: Worship 4/22 @ 11:30a; Spiritual Growth 4/22 @ 9:00a; Biblical Stewardship 4/26 @ 1:30p; Christian Services 4/27 @ 5:30p

6. Graduating Seniors: Aiden Lesser, Andrew Miles, Madeline Pilger, Kaleb Prigge, Blake Vopalensky

Adjourn:

The meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Diane K. Hahm Bonin