

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH  
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES  
August 10, 2021

**Members Present:** Sandy Steele, Bill Peterson, Jan Leitz, Jeanne Dillner, Fred Kremmer, Pastor Steve Ernst, Janet Jansson and Diane Bonin.

**Absent:** Valerie Silva and Kristen Imhoff.

**Opening:** The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. and opened by the president, Sandy Steele. Devotion and prayer provided by Val and presented by Sandy.

**Staff Reports:**

1. **President's Report-Sandy Steele:** Sandy reported:
  - a. The new member luncheon has been canceled for August 15 due to scheduling conflicts of the participants.
  - b. The scholarship committee has been activated, with a completion date by the end of December. Please keep them in prayer.
  - c. Please note the action items list, as names have been moved up a month, see highlighted items.
  - d. The Nominating Committee is still working on 2022 Council nominations. A list of names will be available by next Council meeting.
  
2. **Lead Pastor Report-Pastor Steve:** Pastor Steve reported:
  - a. The affidavits for staff vaccinations have been completed, and in compliance with L & I specified guidelines.
  - b. Discussion with Kelly and Amanda about pastoral ministry as they complete their education. The LCMC has recommended that pastors serve their first call outside their home congregation.
  - c. The Nominating committee is still working on their recommended candidates. They've had some questions regarding background screenings which Council will address in a Preview article in support of background screenings.
  - d. The Fall preaching schedule-Starting Sept. 12-will be on why the church exists, what it does, and expectations as a church member. Advent will follow the lectionary.
  - e. Attendance numbers are low, as seen by attendance report. The staff will be going through the directory and contacting members not attending to determine reasons why.
  
3. **Financial Report-Bill Peterson:**

January to July 2021 Income \$477,888.86; Expenses \$431,916.62; Net Operating Income \$45,972.24.

July Income was below our normal ~\$60K at \$49,764.86 which put us in the hole for July as our expenses were \$60,104.25 (\$10,339.39). We are tracking according to our Budget with 60% of the year completed. We have attained 57% of our income projection and have spent 51% of our projected budget.

**Consent Agenda:** A motion made by Bill and seconded by Jeanne to accept the consent agenda items without discussion. The motion passed.

1. **Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2021**
2. **Approve Janet Jansson as Member-at-Large Successor to Kristen Imhoff**
3. **Approve Restricted/Designated Funds Redistribution-** as attached
4. **Approve the following new members: Gaylen & Lois Chilton, Hal & Karen Still, Donna Ling, and Beth Moats**

#### **Old Business:**

1. **2022 Budget –**

Lisa is gathering information from MALTs for the 2022 budget proposal. There was discussion about the amount of Benevolence in the budget, as we are giving about 11% and the goal is 15%. Bill pointed out that our actual giving is much higher when you consider other RLC programs such as the food bank and the children's programs.
2. **Select 2022 Nominating Committee Candidates for 2022-**

The Council listed potential candidates as needed to serve for a 2-year term on the Nominating Committee. Council members volunteered to contact individuals to find out who is willing to serve. The names and Council contacts are as follow:

  - Fred Kremmer-Fred agreed to serve
  - Jim Moran-contact is Janet Jansson
  - Susie McKenney-contact is Jeanne
  - Joanne Woehle-contact is Fred
  - Pamela Warren-contact is Jan
  - Heidi Dagle-contact is Bill
3. **Constitution/Bylaws Recommendations for Congregational Approval-**

Jeanne moved to accept the Constitution/Bylaw changes as written, and Bill seconded. The motion passed. The recommendations will now go to the congregation for vote at the meeting on October 31.
4. **Discuss Conflict Resolution and Discipline Policy-**

Council discussion concerning the necessity of this policy. It was felt that the constitution adequately addresses this topic, making the policy unnecessary. Jeanne moved to eliminate policy; Bill seconded. Motion carried.
5. **Off-Site Retreat Center Fund Allocations for Congregational Approval –**

Sandy recommended that the 2% allocated for the Food Pantry be eliminated from the list since the Food Pantry is well funded from member contributions. Bill motioned to move this allocation to Good News Media Ministry and Jan seconded. The Motion carried. The congregation will receive an amended list before the congregation meeting in October.
6. **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Status-**

Pastor Perry Fruhling from LCMC will speak. The historical wall project is ready to go to printer. There will be a sing-along on Saturday evening, and a dinner planned for Sunday.

#### **New Business:**

1. **Audit Committee Report-**

The audit report was reviewed, and recommendations noted. The reported noted, that Security Awareness training needs to be completed by staff on an annual basis. Bill motioned and Jeanne seconded to accept report. The motion carried. Bill will draft a response to accept the report. Kudos to Jenny and Lisa for their great work.
2. **Approve one worship service at 10:00 a.m. on October 10 for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and December 19 for the Christmas Cantata.**

A motion made by Jan, and seconded by Bill, to approve these dates for one service. The motion carried.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

An Executive Session was called to discuss staffing and salary actions for 2022.

The meeting was closed with prayer at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Diane K. Hahm Bonin

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Devotions – Diane Bonin September 14
2. Preview Article due to Kelly – Val Silva August 15; Diane Bonin September 15
3. **New Members' Luncheon - Canceled**
4. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – October 9 & 10
5. March MALT Meetings: Worship 7/29 @ 11:30a; Spiritual Growth 7/29 @ 9:00a; Christian Services 7/27 @ 5:30p; Biblical Stewardship 7/26 @ 1:30p