

**RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH  
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES  
December 14, 2021**

**Members Present:** Sandy Steele, Bill Peterson, Jan Leitz, Jeanne Dillner, Fred Kremmer, Pastor Steve Ernst, Valerie Silva, Kristen Imhoff and Diane Bonin. Newly elected member for 2022-year Fred Ball also present.

**Opening:** The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. and opened by the president, Sandy Steele. Devotion and prayer provided by Fred Kremmer.

**Staff Reports:**

- 1. President's Report – Sandy Steele.**
  - a. Sandy thanked Val Silva and Fred Kremmer who are completing their council service this month.
  - b. Sandy indicated to the new council member that orientation videos are available.
  
- 2. Lead Pastor Report – Pastor Steve**
  - a. Pastor Steve reported about his discussion with Pastor Sam clarifying his role in leading the visitation team.
  - b. In January we will discuss updates to the handbook about purpose and criteria.
  - c. In February we will be start using a different version of Apostle's creed.
  - d. Annual membership review and church roll update.
  
- 3. Financial Report – Bill Peterson**
  - a. Jan-November 2021 income was \$739,761, Budget-\$768,795, Expense-\$653,557, Gain/(Loss)-\$86,204. Income indicates 84% of annual budget (tithes and offerings) needed. Expenses at 78%. We are still in the plus currently.

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

- 1. Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes – November 9, 2021**
- 2. Approve the following members for the Ministry and Mission Planning Team: Amanda Daniels and Cynthia Wheeler**
- 3. Approve Pastor Steve's 2022 housing allowance at \$27,000**
- 4. Approve rental value of \$1,267/month for 1015 Farrell for 2022 - Pastor Steve & Family**

## Old Business:

1. **Identify candidate for vacant Council Member-at-large position (1 yr.).** The council generated names of candidates (long list) to fill the vacant position and were asked to pray and discern on the names generated between now and January's meeting.
2. **Identify nominees for RLC Foundation Board (4).** Candidates agreeing and interested in being on the board are-Cindy Dixon, Rick Synder, Kris Mitchell, and Erlan Leitz. Motion made by Kristen for approval of these nominees, Bill seconded. Motion passed. These individuals will be notified as to their candidacy and the names will be passed on to Ginnette Ernst, RLC Foundation Board President.

## New Business:

1. **2022 MALT Assignments (attached).** MALT assignments for 2022 now available.
2. **Foundation/MALT Partnership.** Tabled until January.
3. **Approve 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Benevolences for local ministries as follows: Rebuilding Mid-Columbia \$1,000, Grace Clinic \$1,000, Union Gospel Mission \$2,500, You Medical \$1,000, Chaplaincy Health Care \$1,000, Samaritan's Purse (Penley's fund) \$3,971.80, Sign Fracture Care \$1,000, Liberty Christian School \$1,000, My Friends Place \$1,000, Safe Harbor Support Center \$1,000, Flourish Mid-Columbia \$2,500, Hope Medical \$1,000 (attached).** Motion made by Kristen and seconded by Bill to approve these benevolences. Motion passed.
4. **Approve following 2021 Emerging Needs Ministry Benevolences of \$13,478.85: World Relief Tri-Cities (refugee help) \$3,500, Convoy of Hope Disaster Relief \$3,500, Salvation Army Tri-Cities \$3,500, Harvest Workers \$2,978.85 (attached).** Motion made by Bill, seconded by Jan to approve these benevolences. Motion passed.
5. **Approve the immediate removal of individuals from RLC's membership as presented in the 2021 End of Year Membership Review list (attached).** Motion was made by Jeanne and seconded by Bill to approve the immediate removal of the list. After discussion, motion was amended by Bill and Jeanne to remove Kris and Michael McCargar from the list, but other names will be removed from membership. Fred will contact them to verify that they want to continue their membership and attendance. Motion passed.
6. **Personnel Policy and Guidelines Revisions (attached).** Updated policy to coordinate with bylaws. Motion by Val, seconded by Kristen to accept updates and motion passed.

Sandy commented that the Council members rotate devotions and a Preview article during the year and that orientation videos are available. A new council contact list is available for 2022 council members information.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 with the Lord's Prayer.**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Diane K. Hahm Bonin, secretary.**

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. **Devotions & Preview Articles are rotational throughout year**
2. Devotions – Jeanne Dillner January 11; Jan Leitz February 8
3. Preview Article due to Kelly – Fred Kremmer Dec. 15; Jeanne Diller January 15
4. **View training videos available on YouTube**
5. Council Handbooks available soon
6. **Council/Staff Retreat – January 22, 2022**
7. **Council Commissioning – January 23, 2022 at all three worship services**
8. December MALT Meetings: Worship – No Dec. meeting; Spiritual Growth – No Dec. meeting; Christian Services 12/28 @ 5:30p; Biblical Stewardship 12/13 @ 2:30p via Zoo