

OSLC Church Council Meeting
Saturday, December 16, 2017 – 7:59 a.m.

Council Present: Steve Spayer, Mark Witt, Graham Brenna, Christine Robinson, Robyn Carlson, Laura Adeli, Susan Miller, Glenn Wishnew, Ruth Nelson

Attendees: Pr. John Gerike, Pr. Brian Wise, Pr. Emily Wiles, Rick Lebeck (finance), Dave Mevis (minutes)

Devotions: Susan Miller led a devotion on the song, "O Holy Night"

Approval of November 2017 Council Minutes:

Motion: Graham Brenna

Second: Laura Adeli

Motion carried

Committee Reports

- **Finance** – November was a soft month. Envelope giving was down \$10k vs budget. Revenue over all was down \$18k vs budget. Salaries were \$14k favorable. YTD envelope giving is flat. Children's Center is favorable. Debt-Free-To-Be is down from last year but Lane Lewis is working on a big project which he thinks is going to bring in conservatively an additional \$500k before year end. Envelope giving always increases in December.
- Rick Lebeck is keeping in touch with Thrivent on the loan refinance. Interest rates are going up. Steve Spayer made a motion to give Mark Witt responsibility for negotiating the refinance. Ruth Nelson seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Rick and Pastor John working to condense number of restricted reserve accounts by about 1/3.
- Neil Springer is stepping off Finance Committee., but will continue to review financial statements and be involved when in town to assist with the transition. Specifically, Neil will remain involved with the health insurance renewals, the Children's Center, and the parking lot agreement.
- Audit will be deferred because proposal came in at \$8,000 against a budget of \$3,000.
- **Human Resources** – Veritas Risk Services is our new healthcare agent. The committee and Neil Springer worked with Veritas to find a healthcare package that is within budget and offers better coverage through Blue Cross/Blue Shield.
- Consideration of Realm vs. ACS: biggest issue still is lacking a complete, robust finance module. Opportunity to help shape and design the system by getting in early. Cheaper because cloud based vs server based. More user friendly. Need to decide by Feb 1, 2018 and start by April 1, 2018.
- Strengths Training in January
- **Property** – Celebration Flood Damage: Bob Turnquist, Lee Thompson and Sonny Smith have done an excellent job in leading the repairs. Volunteers installed drywall and painted. The cost of repairs is coming in at about \$20,000 vs. an initial estimate of \$40,000.
- There was and still is no back-up pumping system at Celebration. The committee is considering an alarm system to notify an appropriate person.
- Real estate lawyer Scott Day, along with Bill Wentz and Dan Zollner are exploring whether we have any recourse against the insurance company or the City of Naperville.
- Parking Lot Lighting: \$15,500 bid to put in two light poles. \$7,750 pledge from Memorial Committee. Asking Council to approve the other half. Installer is responsible for permits and any other City approvals. The lighting will be angled directionally straight down so as not to impact neighborhood. Four to six week completion. Ruth Nelson made a motion for Council to approve the other half of the job cost, \$7,750. Susan Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- Work on the Education Wing was completed at a cost of \$19,500 against a budget of \$20,000.

- Bell Tower report supports repair instead of demolition, but no cost estimate yet.
- The initial roof inspection is complete, and the rehab estimate is in process.
- SamaraCare to rent space at Celebration for a year for \$12,000 while its offices are remodeled.
- Other outside groups are approaching us about how we are going to use the lower level.
- Security system – no information on pricing yet.
- Parking lot – Bill Wentz, Rick Lebeck, Jenifer Sevaton, and Steve Spayer are working with Edward Hospital on the parking lease. Bill Wentz got comps. They are addressing issues of signage, cleaning, pro-rata share of repairs and maintenance. The new lease will increase from \$12,000 per year to \$117,000 per year, adjusted each year based on CPI. One year lease with annual renewals.
- **Mission** – \$18,650 to World Relief for hurricanes. \$14,702 to world hunger. Received \$2,300 from Endowment Committee which was donated to Loaves and Fishes. Approved seven scholarships for travel to Haiti, both youth and adults.
- **Memorial** – Working on clarification of intent of designated gifts
- **Endowment** – no report
- **Stewardship** – no report
- **Christian Education** – search team has met and will meet again before Christmas
- **Constitutional Review** – no report
- **Nominating** – proposed a slate of nominees for Council: Brett Lindberg, Steve Spayer, Graham Brenna and Susan Miller
 Motion: Christine Robinson
 Second: Steve Spayer
 Motion carried

ACTION ITEMS

Housing Allowance – IRS tax treatment for housing allowance requires a church designation.

Motion: Graham Brenna

Second: Ruth Nelson

Motion carried

New members' names were read and Council approved their membership

Motion: Graham Brenna

Second: Glenn Wishnew

Motion carried

OTHER DISCUSSION

Giving Tuesday was a big hit, raising \$16,000.

Cantata offering was \$3,600 of which \$2,200 was paid to musicians

Bright Stars of Bethlehem reports Palestinians Christians are under tremendous pressure and horrendous stress from the Israeli Occupation. They have turned the lights out in Bethlehem and are surrounded by prison walls on three sides.

Christmas Eve Volunteer Appeal – need parking attendants and 11pm greeters. 2017 attendance: 2,500

Council Adjourned: 9:23 a.m.

Next Council Meeting: January 27, 2018, 8:00 a.m.

Notes respectfully submitted by Dave Mevis