

## **OSLC Church Council Meeting**

**March 17, 2018, 8:00 am**

**Council members present:** Laura Adeli, Graham Brenna, Robyn Carlson, Susan Miller, Ruth Nelson, Steve Spayer, Glenn Wishnew, Mark Witt

**Absent:** Brett Lindberg

**Attendees:** Pr. John Gerike, Pr. Emily Wiles, Pr. Brian Wise, Rick Lebeck, Jennifer Penny

**Recorder:** Rebecca Cremin

### **1. Opening Prayer/Devotion**

Glenn shared some of the story of the life of St. Patrick.

### **2. Generative question:** How do we frame and promote the role of our pastors as we migrate successfully to a model reflecting lay partnership in ministry?

As OSLC moves to a model of greater lay involvement, the role of the pastors will change. If the role of the pastors is to equip the congregation for ministry, how is that best achieved in the new model? What are the expectations of the pastors? Where should they put their time and energy? The discussion brought up a number of approaches and factors to consider:

- We should look at best practices while remaining sensitive to how the culture of an individual congregation affects the way it operates. Best practices would need to be tweaked to fit the OSLC culture.
- We need to have an awareness of any gaps between perception and reality so they can be addressed to make sure that expectations mesh with what is happening in the church.
- We need to find a balance between lay and pastor/staff involvement so we are walking together to fulfill the church's mission. Continually telling stories of healthy and successful examples of this model will help reinforce it.
- Because of the size of the staff, consideration also needs to be paid to making sure there are touchpoints for staff and finding ways to align staff strengths and desired duties with congregational needs.
- With more time freed up in their schedules, pastors and staff should have more time to be proactive in living and promoting the church's vision.
- There is an understanding that this is an evolving process. Changing the culture takes time and continuously telling our story.

The topic will continue to be explored at future meetings.

### **3. Meeting Minutes**

Steve requested that Rick Lebeck's name be listed as an attendee of the meetings, not a member.

Motion to approve the February minutes with the change in status for Rick: Laura Adeli

Second: Ruth Nelson

Motion carried

#### 4. Strategic Planning

**Engagement Party:** There was a very positive response to the engagement party. There were many email updates for Realm. There was a lot of interest in the available sign up opportunities with a number of people wanting to think about their decision before committing. We should be thinking about what the follow up to the party should be to encourage more sign ups and keep momentum going.

**Realm:** Ruth reported that the migration to Realm will be ready for the April 16<sup>th</sup> implementation. The implementation team has been updating the email database, resolving quality issues, creating a hierarchy and designated groups, and developing a communication plan. The conversion timeline is as follows:

April 9: ACS shuts down at noon

April 16: Conversion to Realm

April 16-19: Team and available staff enter people and groups into Realm

April 18: Lay leaders training session in the evening

April 19: ACS trainer still available at OSLC

Finance is scheduled to roll over on July 23. The committee is working on a confidentiality agreement for people who see sensitive information in the system. They are also working on assigning levels of access for users.

**Project Management Tool:** Jennifer Penny explained the Excel tool she has created to help with the strategic plan implementation. It is a vehicle the implementation teams can use for tracking progress on tasks related to their initiatives. To create a clear distinction between initiatives, she will update the tool so that each initiative has its own tab. If teams can fill out their own section by the end of the month, she will distill that information onto a PowerPoint slide for the initiative that shows progress to date.

#### 5. Updates

**Lawsuit vs. property insurance carrier:** Dan Zollner is unable to work on the case pro bono, but Bill Wentz will be able to represent the church in the case. He will cover the cost of the retainer for his firm.

**Synod Assembly:** The assembly will take place June 8-9. The agenda should be a fairly light this year. OSLC can send up to five lay attendees. In asking for volunteers to attend, the opportunity to learn about what is happening in the larger church and spend some quality time with the pastors can be stressed.

**Annual meeting:** Assuming the Finance Committee has enough time to pull together the necessary reports, forums to present the budget and other annual meeting items will be planned for the first weekend in June with voting the weekend of June 9-10 during services.

#### 6. Reports

**Finance Committee** (Rick Lebeck)

- February's financials finished \$61k positive vs. budget with revenue up \$24k. March is running \$10k behind so far.

- Lane Lewis is planning on speaking to the congregation in April about the end of the debt free campaign, which wraps up in May. He will show the relationship between the debt free and operating budgets and help the congregation visualize the need for greater financial support for church operations once the debt free campaign has ended since the operating budget will now need to take over funds that the debt free campaign was covering.
- The committee is planning on presenting financial information quarterly to the congregation to enhance transparency of the church's finances. They plan to do a presentation in April and are working with Lane to make sure their messages align and are clearly correlated.
- In the June forums before the annual meeting, they will present a schedule of where the Fruchey funds have been distributed so far and look at ideas of where to use them in the future.
- The photocopier and landscape contract renewals are out to bid.
- There will be a review audit in June of this year. The last one was done in June of 2013.
- The mission contingency fund is being phased out. The Buds, Suds, and Grub account has moved into the operating budget, and the remaining accounts will move this month.
- The committee is still looking for two members and will work with the Nominating Committee to fill those positions.

#### **Human Resources (Ruth Nelson)**

- The VBS Coordinator position has been filled by new member Allison Jackson.
- The youth director position remains open.

#### **Property**

No report

#### **Mission & Benevolence**

No report

#### **Memorial (Mark Witt)**

- The committee is working on recommendations for the Fruchey fund.
- A baptismal font for Celebration is in the early stages of development through the Hammond fund.
- The committee is developing a mechanism to ensure that the details of gifts aren't lost and can be tracked. It should be ready in April.

#### **Endowment**

The fund grew by 50% due to two contributions. The committee is looking at investment options.

#### **Stewardship**

No report

#### **Christian Education**

No report

#### **Constitutional Review**

No report

**Nominating**

No report

**7. Next Meeting**

April 21: Opening devotion – Graham

**8.** Meeting adjourned at 10:30.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Rebecca Cremin