Roseau Evangelical Covenant Church

Quarterly Congregational Meeting

30 November 2021

**Call to Order & Declaration of Quorum: Tony Fichter- Leadership Council Chair**

**Devotional & Prayer: Darrin Smedsmo- Deacon Board Chair**

**Advancing the Mission & Vision:**

* **Darrin Smedsmo- Deacon Board Chair**

**The Deacon Board has nominated Chris and Marisa Shortreed for membership**

**Glen Johnson seconds**

**Motion unanimously passed**

* **Sarah Johnson- Leadership Council Secretary**
* We reviewed the September 2021 Congregational Meeting Minutes

**Jan Carr-Herseth made a motion to approve the minutes as written**

**Seconded by Dave Anderson**

**Motion passed**

* **Chris Shortreed- Youth Ministry Director**
* Release time started in October. We have 3 students currently attending.
* 28 students went with to the Reggie Dabbs event in November. Chris has been following up with the students who went.
* Chris met with the PRC committee.
* December 1st we have a free bowling event for the kids.
* The Christmas party be be on December 15th.
* In February we have a possible Bluewater retreat.
* In July we will go to the UNITE event in the cities. This year it will be at Bethel University with just our conference. It will only cost $300-$400 per person. We will do an auction in January to raise funds for this event.
* **Rachel Krahn- Christian Formation Board Chair**
* We are so happy to have Sunday School going again! We had a great kick-off breakfast. We are still using The Gospel Project for our curriculum.
* We gave Bibles to 2nd graders in October.
* We’ve been doing some training sessions with our volunteers using the Ministry Safe program.
* Because Chris is part of the CF Board, we’ve been helping him with release time.
* The nursery is running well, and we are very thankful to Heather Enright, Tina Espe, and Cindy Tangen for that.
* There have been some teen girls painting in Sunday School rooms.
* We would like to update the outdoor playground equipment.
* The Christmas program will be during the Sunday morning service on December 19th, and we will have a potluck afterwards. We will also have some students read the advent readings.
* One of the trees in the foyer will be designated as a “prayer tree.” We will have ornaments on the tree, and each will have a student’s name on it. We would like each person in the congregation to pick a student’s ornament and commit to praying for them.
* We would also like to create one data base for the entire congregation, including students. We would like to look in to using a program to do this. One program brought up is called Fellowship One. We need to have a program that at least a few people can access.
* **Mary Huglen- Missions & Outreach Board Chair**
* 228 shoe boxes went out a couple of weeks ago. Kathy Brandt played a huge role in this. Thank you, Kathy!
* We raised $11,800.00 at Fall Fest.
* Every year we give a Christmas gift to all of our missionaries. Nora sent out $200 gift cards to each.
* The dresser ministry will be moved to the church, so it will be more accessible for people in need.
* We really want to continue to do more men’s ministry and women’s ministry events. We think this is a kind of “in-reach,” which is so important! If anyone has any passions or ideas for events, we encourage you to go for it.
* **Darrin Smedsmo- Deacon Board Chair**
* A few small group Bible studies have been going on. If anyone has a passion for hosting a group, please get one going!
* Adult Sunday School is going and if anyone has a passion to teach, please let us know.
* The Love God, Love Others event was a few weeks ago & it was a success.
* **Braden Stroot & C.J. Fichter- Lead AV Techs**
* Since our last meeting, we have almost completely upgraded our AV system. We had a budget of $13,000.00, and we went over by about $400.00. We also have a plan to get rid of the old equipment, which will help us fund future improvements.
* Right now we NEED volunteers.
* **Sheldon Espe filling in for Kelly Christianson- Trustee Board Chair & Todd Peterson- Treasurer**
* We are low on our giving, but our expenses have been much lower due to staffing.
* The new furnaces have been working well, except Chris has a bit of a cold corner in his office. We are still adjusting some duct work to get everything figured out. Thanks to Tony and C.J. Fichter for supplying and installing the new furnace filters.
* We ended up hooking up to city water after we had issues with our well. We will now need to seal up our old well. We will be able to get rid of our old water softeners, as well as the Culligan water.
* Our capital projects for 2022 include: replacing some windows, replacing our old light fixtures with newer LED lights, and updating our tables and chairs. We would like to sell our old heavy tables and chairs, and replace them with the new plastic ones.
* We went through the proposed budget for 2022.
* Rachel would like to move the playground equipment to high priority. Sheldon mentioned that we should think about moving the lawn mower replacement to high priority as well.
* Traci brought up that we should think about buying a cordless vacuum for vacuuming around the pews.

**Traci Fichter made a motion to buy 8 new rectangle tables, and chairs to fit, which will cost about $1500.00**

**Jan Carr-Herseth seconds**

**Motion passed**

* **Steve Huglen- Pastoral Search Committee Chair & Jan Carr-Herseth- PSC Communications Liaison**
* The PSC continues to meet regularly. We have posted the senior pastor position nationally. We have received many applicants, and continue to review each. We meet this Thursday and will review together.
* **Tony Fichter- Leadership Council Chair**
* Based on the book we are reading in adult Sunday School, we would like to improve our Sunday morning greeting ministry. We discussed who should be in charge of this: specific greeters, ushers, pastoral staff? Ann Haaby brought up having a welcome center with someone who can man it. Jan brought up the idea of having a slide up before and after church that would have pictures of our staff and directing visitors to find them. Darrin said the Deacons will discuss this. Also, Tony will talk to Kristine Dickson about updating the website’s information.
* Tony brought up the idea of moving our congregational meeting to Sunday after church. A lot of discussion was had. Jan brought up the idea of having each board being featured during the service. C.J. brought up the idea of having a shortened worship service if we had the meeting after church. We decided to start trying Sunday meetings at the meeting this upcoming spring.
* The nominating committee has been busy. There are a total of 34 positions that we need to cover, but not all of those are up for re-election. We will need to cover about half of those. We are looking for 3 people on the trustees, the Deacons are looking for a female member, the CF board is looking for 1-2 new members, the Missions & Outreach is looking for 3 new members, and the nominating committee is looking for 2 new members.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 26th, 2022 @7:00 P.M.**

**Closing Prayer: Dave Anderson- LC Vice Chair**

**Motion to Adjourn: Tony Fichter**

**Respectfully Submitted:**

**Sarah Johnson- Secretary**

**Tony Fichter- LC Chair**