Roseau Evangelical Covenant Church

Quarterly Congregational Meeting

27 September 2021

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

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

**Advancing the Mission & Vision:**

* **Review of the June 2021 Quarterly Congregational Meeting Minutes- Sarah Johnson- Leadership Council Secretary**
* Darrin Smedsmo made a motion to approve the minutes as written

Seconded by Jan Carr-Herseth

Motion approved

* **Chris Shortreed- Youth Ministry Director**
* There have been two Wednesday night sessions so far. There were on average 10 middle school kids and 15 high school students in attendance. We have selected a curriculum for both groups. We have multiple events planned for the future. These include the corn maze and the Bluewater retreat. Chris is also planning for a spring conference.
* **Juli Smedsmo filling in for Rachel Krahn- Christian Formation Board Chair**
* Rachel and Chris have been working on training all of the volunteers through the ministry safe program. Sunday school started two weeks ago for all ages. During the worship service, nursery is being provided for ages 0-5. \*There is no children’s church. This upcoming Sunday we will present the 2nd graders with Bibles. We have decided not to host a confirmation class this year, as we don’t have a senior pastor. Next year we will have a double class. On October 10th, there will be a RECC family day at the corn maze. There will also be a Sunday School Christmas program on December 19th.
* **Steve Huglen- Pastoral Search Committee Chair & Jan Carr-Herseth- PSC**

**Communication Liaison**

* Jan reviewed the process that the search committee is going through to find our next senior pastor.
* Steve presented some information about the congregational survey that has been available to gauge our wants/needs for our new senior pastor.
* Jan explained the CovConnect platform and how we are progressing through the profile so we can post it. We plan to go live with our job posting on October 1st.
* **Tony Fichter- Leadership Council Chair**
* Tony reminded everyone about the importance of praying for our search committee and our process of finding a new senior pastor. He then passed out the job description so we can review it together. He also pointed out that this job description has already been reviewed and approved by the LC, the PRC, and the deacons. Next, Tony went over the job description, and explained how we want the job description to be able to fit on one page, and to really paint a picture of what we want in our next pastor, instead of a list of specific duties. This job description is based off of the 360 Review we use to review our senior pastor. Tony also went over the salary and benefit package. We opened up for discussion.
* **Mary Huglen made a motion to approve the job description and benefits package**

**Todd Peterson seconded**

**Motion approved**

* Next, Tony updated us on the interim pastor search. We began working with IPM, Interim Pastoral Ministries. We spent a lot of time talking with them and filling out our profile with them. However, they have not been successful with finding an interim pastor for us. With that said, Pastor Jason Stromstad has reached out to us about his situation in Alaska. Right now, his church building and parsonage is being torn down, and won’t be rebuilt for a year. He is an ordained Covenant pastor, and he feels that God is calling him to our church for the time being. The LC has talked about this opportunity, as well as interviewed Jason/chatted with him to get to know him. God has been working everything out as far as lining up housing and a vehicle for Jason as he is here. Discussion was had.
* **Steve Huglen made a motion to call Jason Stromstad as our interim pastor under the terms and conditions discussed**

**Sheldon Espe seconded**

**Motion approved unanimously**

* **Dave Anderson- Leadership Council Vice Chair & PRC Chair**
* We have been working with Chris, and everything has been going well!
* **Todd Peterson- Treasurer**
* The financials are updated through today. Overall we are looking good. We are a little bit down in offerings compared to overall budget, but our expenditures are way down due to staffing.
* **Todd Peterson filling in for Kelly Christianson- Trustee Board Chair**
* Update from Trustees. As of today, the new furnaces and duct work has been installed. We are waiting on the electricians to come and hook everything up. We also will have a contractor come in to create the false ceiling over the new duct work. We are working on updating the storage areas in the church. We would like to recognize Tim Johnson as a long-time trustee and thank him for his service. He will be moving to Bemidji next week. He will be missed! With that being said, we are looking for more trustees. Our church has been approached by Helgeson Funeral Homes to buy some land to build a storage shed. We had a lot of discussion about this.
* **Dave Anderson made a motion for Kelly to have a further conversation with Helgeson Funeral Homes regarding this**

**Sonya Peterson seconded**

**Yes 16 No 10**

**Motion Passed**

* **Braden Stroot & C.J. Fichter**
* We are struggling to find volunteers to help run the sound booth. It is difficult to run, because our equipment is so outdated. It is a very cumbersome process with all of our different programs. C.J. and Braden are proposing to upgrade our systems so we can continue to live stream and serve our church community. They would like to gauge our interest. Discussion was had, and it seems most people think this is a worthwhile investment. The price of the updates would be around $13K. Tony proposed that we put this in the budget for 2022.
* **Dave Anderson made a motion to approve the $13K and get moving on this project**

**Sarah Johnson seconded**

**Motion approved**

* **Mary Huglen- Missions & Outreach Board Chair**
* Coming up on October 10th we will host our annual Fall Fest. We have the MN Adult and Teen Challenge choir coming that day. We will be supporting 3 different organizations with our collected donations: MN Adult and Teen Challenge, Faith and Action in Haiti, and Fishers of Men Outpost. We will provide a breakfast for the Teen Challenge guys, and have a lunch potluck for the entire church. Lastly, we will be sending take home bags for the boys. The service will also be live-streamed at the Roseau County Jail. We have the shoe box ministry and a quilting ministry coming up.
* **Darrin Smedsmo- Deacon Board Chair**
* Please come to adult Sunday school, Wednesday night prayer meetings, and please continue to pray for our church. We also are hosting an event on November 14th-16th where Pastor Knight from Hope Covenant Church in Grand Forks will be speaking.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 30, 2021**

**Closing Prayer & Motion to Adjourn: Tony Fichter**

**Respectfully Submitted:**

**Sarah Johnson- Secretary**

**Tony Fichter- LC Chair**