**CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES**

**September 22, 2019**

The meeting was brought to order by Fred Rackow at 10:27 am. A legal quorum was achieved with 44 members present. Pastor Donovan opened the meeting with a prayer of Thanksgiving to God seeking His Holy Spirit.

I. SECRETARY’S REPORT

1. The minutes of the July 8, 2018 minutes were distributed. Dave Bahr moved, seconded by Sandy Dorwaldt, to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
2. President Fred Rackow extended a commendation to Fern Petersen for the beauty outside our church. Fern has maintained the flowers and landscaping. Fred also offered congratulations for the 225 dresses completed for Dress A Girl Around the World ministry.
3. Nancy Miller spoke of the Ladies Aid participation at the Burlington Festival on September 8th. “Walking Tacos” were prepared and sold under the leadership of Sally Hartje and Nancy. Nancy expressed gratitude for all who helped with this event. The profit of $347 will be donated to the Burlington Hampshire Food Pantry and Lutheran Church Charities.

II. PASTOR’S REPORT

A. Pastor Donovan asked for a motion to bring the Constitution and By-laws to the table. Ken Bartels so moved, seconded by Dave Bahr. Pastor highlighted the changes including:

1. The addition of a Church Council to make decisions efficiently, though the Congregational Assembly has the final say.
2. Women can serve as officers of the church.
3. A Board of Finance, comprised of the Treasurer and the Financial Secretary, was added.
4. The name of Evangelism Committee will be changed to Outreach Committee.
5. All elected positions will serve two-year terms.

B. With noted changes, by a show of hands, the new Constitution and By-laws passed by acclamation. On behalf of the congregation, Fred thanked Pastor Donovan for his work on the constitution.

III. CALL PROCESS

A. Pastor Pinion was introduced as the Circuit Visitor to preside over the Call to Pastor Thomas Eaves. Jeff Pergande presented Pastor Eaves to the assembly for their approval of the call. The Official Compensation package and Call Documents were distributed. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Scott McBride, seconded by Sonja Sporleder, to add a maximum of $10,000 for moving expenses. After discussion, a vote was called for the motion on the floor. There were no dissenting votes; motion passed. Jeff then asked for a motion for flexibility in compensation. Steve Sporleder made a motion to give the Call Committee latitude of up to +10% in salary and housing compensation for Pastor Eaves. Carol Wieg seconded. Discussion followed. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Ballots were distributed and counted. While the ballots were being counted, Jeff gave the Elders Report.

IV. BOARD OF ELDERS

A. Jeff Pergande submitted a written report. He commented that Pastor Ross and Pastor Petersen have agreed to preach at St. Peter’s in October. Pastor Pinion will assist with visitations and Pastoral emergencies during October.

B. Call to Pastor Eaves approved unanimously 43-0.

C. Fred, Pastor Pinion, and Jeff left the room to place a phone call to Pastor Eaves.

V. OUTREACH COMMITTEE

A. Beth Jack spoke about the Family & Friend Bingo Night being planned for October 19, 2019. Baked goods will be offered as prizes. There will be a charge of $1 for the bingo cards to help the committee offset the cost of outreach activities. Hot dogs, chips, and pop will be served. All are welcome. Invite friends and family, let’s “Fill the Hall!”

VI. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A. Les Herman thanked Dave, Denny, Stan, and Fred for the work they have done and for the professional manner in which it was completed.

VII. PRESCHOOL COMMITTEE

A. The Preschool is doing well, reported Carol Wieg. There are 16 children in the Pre-K class and 13 children in the 3 year-old class.

VIII. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A. Kathy Pergande submitted a written report.

IX. FINANCIAL SECTRETARY’S REPORT

A. Judy Herman distributed the report for July and August. There was no Treasurer’s report at this time.

Fred, Pastor Pinion and Jeff returned to the Fellowship Hall. Fred announced they had to leave a message for Pastor Eaves to return Jeff’s phone call. The church office, through Denise, will notify the congregation on Monday morning via email of Pastor’s Eaves response.

Nancy Miller moved, seconded by Heidi Blezien, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:40. Meeting was closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Pergande