

SERVING GOD, CHANGING LIVES!

HOSANNA LUTHERAN CHURCH Congregational Meeting Minutes December 20, 2015

Call to Order

President Chad Greer called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. in the church sanctuary.

Prayer

Pastor John opened the meeting in prayer.

Declaration of Quorum

Acting Secretary Karrie Jenkins advised a quorum was present with 52 members in attendance.

Congregational Meeting Minutes

Chad Greer called for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting of October 18, 2015 at our next congregational meeting on January 31, 2015. Motion was made by Susan Greer and seconded by Maureen Kennedy. Motion passed.

2016 Priority Spending – Finance Team: Ron Christ, Robert Brown and Becky Wolf

Robert, speaking on behalf of the Finance Team, said very good things have happened in 2015. The building fund debt which started out at \$230,000 owed is now today at \$67,000 owed. Robert complimented the congregation on reducing the debt. Finance feels if we can stay on track we will be able to burn the mortgage by year end of 2016.

2015 Operating Budget – Significant expenditures have occurred this past year. Parking lot expense was \$15,000. Also money was spent on window repairs, lift station repair and tree removal due to lightning strikes.

2016 Operating Budget – Projected income for 2016 is \$310,770. Total projected expenses are \$324,650 leaving a deficit of \$13,880. Cash on hand has dropped to \$7,466.00. Finance is not comfortable with this. After meeting with Council they feel they have made what cuts they can.

Spending – Salaries, wages, benefits are up for 2016 in the amount of \$7,127. However this is not due to increase in salaries but is due to salary for the Youth Director for the full year. We are required to pay into Pastor John's pension to the Synod which has increased from 2015.

A suggested possible area to cut expenditures is our Hosanna Covenants. Our current covenants total \$3,500. Also in 2013 benevolence was increased to 8% going to Synod. An option discussed was to pay the 8% at the end of December but then evaluate total income for December to determine whether to withhold January benevolence. Finance is monitoring very carefully and will have a complete picture of December's income to report at the next congregational meeting on January 31st.

Nancy Agafitei made a motion to accept budget as presented with the provision to evaluate in six months to see if estimates need to be changed or possibly have a special drive. After discussion Bob Dejmaj made a motion to amend Nancy's motion to accept budget as presented and reevaluate by January 31st. Jeff Chestnut seconded. Chad Greer called for a vote to accept amended motion. Motion passed – not unanimously.

Other Business

Nancy Agafitei for Mission Focus – In January Hosanna will begin a study of the Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation. With the end of our mortgage debt approaching we will look at what Hosanna can do even better as a congregation as we explore these 5 practices. Books have been given out with more being ordered this week. Starting January 17th we will have a 5 week preaching series on these five practices followed by an all congregation planning session. A dry-run was held with some Hosanna members participating and it is felt that it went well.

Upcoming Events – Chad Greer

January 8 – Annual Reports due into the church office.

January 24 – Burning with Faith Luncheon to celebrate the \$150,000 received so far of the needed total of \$230,000.

January 31 – Annual Congregational Meeting

For the Good of the Church - Everyone

Pat Gibbons thanked all for bringing food, driving her to appointments and church and every kindness shown to her during this time of healing from shoulder surgery. Hosanna has been a blessing and support.

Pastor John thanked the congregation for 500 lbs of food items brought in for NAM and for the 46 Christmas Gift Bags that were filled for the children.

Sharon Lindquist thanked Hosanna for the donations made for the 110 Seafarer Bags that were filled and delivered.

Angela Sturm thanked Pastor John for rides each week to her counseling appointments. Angela thanked all for the assistance they have given her.

Maureen Kennedy thanked all those who helped in the office while Gretchen was out on maternity leave.

Dottie Kemper reminded everyone of the Fitness Class on Monday's and Thursday's. A few more participants are needed so the instructor can continue to come in January. Those who have participated said they have benefited from the class while having fun.

Beth Johnson thanked those who supported and helped with the Children's Christmas Pageant this year. With special thanks to Pastor John, Judy Hunt, Pam Wells, Shonna Harden, Jeff Chestnut, parents, kids and congregation.

George Posey reminded everyone that an opportunity to help those in need this Christmas is by paying off layaway's at Wal-Mart for families that are unable to do so by Christmas. Over \$500,000 has been received by Wal-Mart for this purpose.

Nickie Brooks would like to see us continue to bring food for NAM leaving the basket for donations out and visible all year. Nickie said it was pointed out at the IHN meeting that Hosanna is a faithful church that provides for them. Hosanna is appreciated.

Robert Brown thanked Karrie Jenkins and Maureen Kennedy for filling in for Yvette.

Chad Greer thanked everyone for all Hosanna does. We benefit the community and ourselves. We keep people in the community knowing who we are. We try to move forward by extra giving. Even when we were seeing negative budgets we have always made it through. We need to continue to pray.

Adjournment

Chad called for a motion to adjourn meeting. Bob DeJmal made the motion to adjourn, Angie Sturm seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Closing Prayer

Pastor John gave the closing prayer and led the congregation in the Lord's Prayer.

Karrie Jenkins

Acting Secretary for Yvette Martinez, Council Secretary