

## Minutes of the January 11, 2022 Congregation Council Meeting

Present: Pastor Mark Laatsch, Ronda Pedersen, Matt Vanni, Terrie Porras, Bill Taccolini, Jeff Hines, Linda Davis, Stacy Hansen, Betty Kohrt, James Porras, Laura Magrane.

Absent: Jeremy Sallgren, Jim Briar

Present to Report: Patti Treptow, Judy Raygo, Debbie Villas

Meeting Called to Order: at 6:05pm by President Ronda who then called for a review and approval of the agenda. Bill motioned to approve, Matt seconded, motion carried.

Opening Devotion: Pastor Mark read John 3:11-17 and "To the Ends of the Earth" from the book "Gentle Strength".

Secretary's Report: Terrie presented minutes of the December 14, 2021. Bill motioned to approve minutes, Linda seconded, motion carried. Pastor Mark read a correspondence received from Debbie Lemery thanking council for her unexpected and much appreciated bonus.

Treasurer's Report: Debbie reviewed financial reports. Ended year with no budget deficit. Permanently Restricted Camp Scholarship Fund and Maintenance Fund interest earned will be deposited into the fund. In person church attendance down, believe due to continued COVID outbreak. Good virtual attendance on Facebook. "Actual 2021 Income Less Expense report" bottom line \$9,294.11 includes \$35K PPP loan deposit and \$40K transfer out to Maintenance Fund. "Contributions Funds Received", Line (1) Sun Offer Env, includes the Vanco Direct Deposits for the month (Vanco also listed separately at the bottom of the report). Received 108 Pledge Cards for 2022 totaling \$142,415.

Finance Committee: Debbie reported. Looking for Swanson Fund investment opportunities that yield a higher return than the ½% Mission Investment Fund where it is currently invested. Request an Investment Policy be written to provide guidance to the committee. Bruce Peters and Vic Klumb to write rough draft, send to Policy & Procedure committee, who will send to Council for review and approval.

### ACTION ITEMS.

#### Old Business – where we've been.

2022 Budget Approval: Debbie presented General Operating Fund 2022 Budget. Return to church attendance low (due to COVID) therefore the budget is low. Have \$47K in general checking to cover any budget deficit. Will continue to work on keeping expenses low 2022. Following discussion, Debbie adjusted budgets for Messenger Sponsorship to \$1,500 and Bulletin Sponsorship to \$200. Under Worship, Altar Supplies deleted. Will be paid from worship supply budget. Adjustments change the 2022 budget Net Total to (\$22,569). Discussed resuming Bulletin Sponsorship. Stacy reported she has list of who paid for sponsorship last year and remaining advertising due (as COVID-19 shutdown in-person worship mid-March 2021). Working to resume in February. **Motion** made by Stacy to approve budget as presented with changes, Matt seconded, motion carried.

Bulletin Sponsorship: Stacy continued to report. She finalized the letter to solicit members for sponsorship. She will send letter to Pastor Mark for input and approval then mail it out.

Annual Meeting: Ronda reported will be held Sunday 01/30/2022. Only one service that day, a short 9:00 a.m., with meeting immediately following in the sanctuary. Quorum of 80 members needed; Judy will put sign-up sheets out this week. Fellowship Committee will host coffee and donuts in the narthex before and after the meeting. Members can take drinks and donuts into the sanctuary for better social distancing. Pastor will announce \$200K Swanson gift at meeting and it will be reported in the annual meeting book. Decided not to live stream meeting. Committee Chairs need to submit their committee reports for the Annual Meeting book by Sunday, 1/9/22. Patti reported will hold "P.J. Party" for youth during the meeting but anticipate low turnout due to COVID uptick. Pastor reported masks will be optional.

#### Reports – where we are

Youth Advisory Council: Laura reported they meet Thursday for their service activity at St. Vincent DePaul and will hold a meeting later this month. She shared that this was her last council meeting as her term has ended. She thanked us for the opportunity and said she has enjoyed being a member. Council thanked her for her service and the great job she did.

Youth & Family Ministry Director: Patti presented her report as written. She was infected with COVID last week and was quite sick with it. She returned to work last Fri. and is feeling well again.

President's Report: Ronda thanked Pastor, Judy, and Patti for all their efforts during the Christmas season. Despite COVID limitations, she felt Christmas joy as our activities moved forward. She thanked all who assisted in Pastor's absence (positive COVID test on New Year's Eve required quarantine). Thanked Pastor Mark for preparing an emergency plan (much like teachers do when they need a substitute) and Pastor Doug Schoen who provided pulpit supply on one day's notice. Recommended we develop a policy and procedure for "Sudden, Unexpected Absence of Pastor" (steps to take, Pulpit Supply list with names and numbers, how to communicate to members if needed). Ronda thanked James Porras for stepping up to fill a vacated council position the past five months. His volunteer service to the church was greatly appreciated. As her President and Council Member term comes to an end, she reflected the time had gone by so fast and that it was an honor for her to serve on council, with this council. During her Presidency and the COVID-19 Pandemic, she was proud we showed grit and perseverance. As we were faced with operation obstacles and challenges, we were able to do the hard stuff and get it done. History will show we were resilient and she gives thanks to God and to our congregation for their support.

Learning: Bill reported they have not met.

Endowment: Pastor reported they have not met.

Fellowship: Ronda & Terrie reported. Holy Grounds Host signup sheet placed on the Sanctuary entrance table. "How to Host" procedure written and available to help members host. Coffee supplies purchased wholesale through Terrie & James, Cousins Subs. Holy Grounds will be held in the Narthex, the first Sunday each month, starting 02/06/22. Some members asking for this, will monitor attendance in Narthex vs. Fellowship Hall. Food for Annual meeting planned. Planning a "Paint" activity at 11a.m., 2/6 or 2/13. Patti reminded us 2/6 is confirmation so Fellowship Hall not available until 12:30pm.

Human Resources: Pastor reported they have not met.

Memorial: Betty reported they have not met. Two members having surgery, another not feeling well.

Outreach: Patti & Terrie reported – Christmas activities went well. Next event: "Super Bowl of Caring" on 2/13/22.

Policy & Procedure (P&P): Pastor reported they meet next week.

Property: Matt reported: Obtained 2 bids for stair carpet replacement, received a bid from Leo Barker for front mosaic window repair, working on Property Committee Annual Report.

Stewardship: Jeff reported they have not met.

Worship: Pastor reported they have not met. Meet tomorrow at 2pm to take down Christmas decorations. Noted COVID infection rates are up, will do communion in the pews next Sunday using disposable wine-wafer packets.

Pastor's Report: Pastor presented his report as written. He added that Pastor Ehle, Bethel, informed him yesterday they are leaning towards not holding mid-week Lenten services. Council discussed holding services on our own during Lent. Pastor will monitor the situation and report updates to council.

### **New Business – where we are going**

Elect Executive Council –Ronda presented candidates; Matt Vanni for President, Linda Davis for Vice President, Terrie Porras for Secretary. Ronda **motioned** to elect candidates as presented, seconded by Betty, motion carried.

Approve New Audit Committee Member – Debbie presented candidate Kerri Weigel to replace Kerry Delgoffe on the Audit Committee. Linda **motioned** to approve candidate as presented, Betty seconded, motion carried. Kerrie will join existing members Rachel Raygo and Marc Jamo. They will meet next week to do the audit and prepare a report of findings for the Annual Meeting book.

Nominating Committee Report – Ronda presented the Nomination Committee list of candidates to fill 2022 Open Positions (see attached). Bill **motioned** to approve candidates as presented, Matt seconded, motion carried. Pastor Mark will inform the Nominating Committee.

### **Long Term Project/Goals** – See Fellowship Committee Report, Holy Grounds

President Ronda adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm on a **motion** by Linda, seconded by, motion carried. Pastor Mark closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Terrie Porras, Council Secretary