

**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting
January 24, 2021**

1. Call to Order

Council President Pat Bolka called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m.

Due to Covid-19, accommodations were made for those wishing to attend the meeting from their car. President Bolka stated that there was a microphone outside and also in the church for those wishing to speak at the meeting.

2. Opening Prayer

Pastor Jeff led the meeting attendees in prayer.

3. Appointment of Tellers

President Bolka announced the tellers: John Blanchard, David Gregor, Ken Olson and David Bruce. Ann Bruce served as the meeting Parliamentarian. The President asked the tellers to count the attendees to establish a quorum.

4. Approval of the 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes

President Bolka asked for a motion to approve the draft 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Sharoll Blodgett moved to approve the 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes. Elaine Carlson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

5. Review of 2020 Staff and Council Reports

President Bolka introduced the current and outgoing council members. Pastor Jeff thanked the outgoing council members for their service.

President Bolka then directed attendees to the council reports in the meeting packet and asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, she proceeded with the agenda.

6. Review of the 2021 Mission Spending Plan

John Brown introduced himself as the church's current administrator and past treasurer. He thanked Ann Bruce and Sharoll Blodgett for their assistance with the budget during the summer months and introduced Ann Bruce as the new treasurer.

John explained that the finances reflect the difficult year we all experienced in 2020; however, while income was down, costs were also down. John explained there was an error on the handouts, and explained how the columns should be displayed. John continued, stating there was a net loss of \$11,000 in 2020, an amount larger than the \$8,000 projected, and total income was down \$30,000 from the 2020 forecasted income. The loss of rent income was \$14,000 of that amount, the rest is attributed to general giving being down.

John explained the 2021 budget stating that because 2020 was an unusual year, he used the 2019 numbers to prepare the new budget. He believes 2021 will be a break-even year and he reminded the attendees that if the income does not come in, the budget expenses are cut.

Our cash on hand is \$240,000; \$153,000 in the designated fund and \$87,000 in operating cash.

The mortgage balance is \$927,000. \$46,000 was paid down in 2020. Our total property equity is \$2,226,000.00.

John thanked Ken Olson for all the diligence of work done on the buildings which has contributed to the value. The facilities are in the best shape ever.

7. Internship Program

Pastor Jeff explained there is an opportunity to assist Alleluia Parish with their pastoral leadership. He stated that after much dialog, the study committee determined that obtaining an intern would be the answer to Alleluia's need.

The intern will be under Pastor Jeff's supervision, and Alleluia will pay the expenses for the position. Pastor will share Sunday responsibilities at Alleluia with the intern.

Pastor has submitted an application to Lutheran Seminary for an intern. If the request is approved, two to three people will be needed to be part of a Pastoral Internship Committee to work with the intern.

8. Declaration of Quorum

President Bolka confirmed that a quorum was present.

9. Nominating Committee Report

President Bolka introduced the nominating committee for this year which consisted of herself, Wendy Gabler, Cher Johnson and Lulu Rood. She stated there are three vacant positions which include President, Building and Maintenance, and Stewardship. President Bolka asked for volunteers, hearing none, she proceeded with the position details.

- 1) Building and Maintenance (two-year term). Hearing no volunteers, this position will remain vacant.
- 2) Stewardship (two-year term). Hearing no volunteers, this position will remain vacant.
- 3) CELC President (one-year term). Hearing no volunteers, President Bolka explained that this position will be filled at an upcoming council meeting.
- 4) Evangelism Ministry (two-year term) – Judy Turnen. Hearing no other nominations from the floor, nominations closed.
- 5) Worship and Music Ministry (one-year term) – Su Erickson. Hearing no other nominations from the floor, nominations closed.
- 6) Youth Ministry (two-year term) – Elizabeth Richardson. Hearing no other nominations from the floor, nominations closed.

10. Casting of Written Congregational Ballot

The written ballots were distributed to the attendees. The attendees were asked to vote on team leaders, the 2021 Mission Spending Plan, and the Intern Program.

There were 63 ballots completed with the following results:

- 1) Elizabeth Richardson was voted into the Youth Ministry Team Lead position. (63 votes)
- 2) Su Erickson was voted into the Worship and Music Ministry Team Lead position. (63 votes)
- 3) Judy Turnen was voted into the Evangelism Ministry Team Lead position. (62 votes)
- 4) The 2021 Mission Spending Plan was approved. (58 votes)
- 5) The Intern Program was approved. (56 votes)

11. Appointments to the 2022 Nominating Committee

President Bolka asked for volunteers from the congregation for the 2022 Nominating Committee. Two volunteers from the congregation are needed to join two volunteers from the council. Hearing none, she continued with the meeting.

12. Appointment to the Audit Committee

President Bolka stated this year's Audit committee consisted of Mike Coyle, Jim Erickson and Elaine Carlson. Mike Coyle's three-year term is completed, so a volunteer from the congregation is needed. Tom Reynolds volunteered. The 2021 Audit Committee will consist of Jim Erickson, Elaine Carlson and Tom Reynolds.

13. Legacy Program

Elizabeth Banta spoke about the Legacy Program. Elizabeth stated the Legacy Program was created to help ensure CELC's mission into the future. There are currently 29 people taking part in the program.

14. 1-3 Year Vision Team Report

President Bolka introduced Gayle Denny who led a team tasked with reviewing the responses to the discussion items taken from the break-out sessions during last year's annual meeting. The team consisted of Olga Blanchard, Ann Bruce, David Gregor, Jordan Sornsin, Carol Noonan, Carol Sears, and Stephen Batchelder.

The report summary is included in the Annual Meeting Packet.

The following items were discussed:

- Obtaining a second pastor: the vision team determined there is not a need for a second pastor at this time.
- Improving the look and visibility of CELC: the vision team determined more signage is needed, greeters need to be added - possibly outside, and the welcoming aspect of the church needs improvement.
- More small group gatherings are needed: the vision team determined communication of what is available needs to improve.
- Children's education: the vision team determined that to encourage more families with children a good program is needed.
- Web site and social media: the vision team determined it needs improvement. Jim Erickson has volunteered to work on this and other volunteers are encouraged.
- Music and Worship: participant of the breakout sessions felt very positive of this and the vision team did not feel this area needs work.

15. Closing Comments and Prayer

President Bolka thanked all attendees and those who have helped in any way during the year.

John Brown asked the attendees to consider the Simply Giving program. This program helps the church project income. John also stated that a brokerage account has been set up to accept donations of stock for those interested in participating in the Legacy Program.

Pastor Jeff thanked the attendees, the outgoing council and committee members, and the incoming council and committee members. He then proceeded with a closing prayer.

16. Adjournment

President Bolka adjourned the 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting at 10:44 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Gayle Williams, Recording Secretary.