

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Annual Meeting Minutes

29 January 2023

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. by President Su Erickson.

**2. Opening Liturgy/Prayer**

Pastor Jeffrey Gallen led the meeting attendees in prayer. The Annual Congregation Meeting Liturgy was read responsively.

**3. Appointment of Tellers and Parliamentarian**

President Erickson announced the tellers: David Bruce, Tony Fabrello, David Gregor and Dave Moonan. Mr. Fabrello and Mr. Moonan were both ill and couldn't attend the meeting. Fred Wordell and Ken Olson were appointed as tellers. Ann Bruce was appointed Parliamentarian and Renata Spanton-Jones took notes in the absence of Secretary Jim Harmon.

**4. Approval of Minutes from 2022 Annual Congregation Meeting and 2022 Special Meeting**

**Motion:** Jim Capelli moved to approve the minutes of the 2022 Annual meeting and the 2022 Special meeting held January 30, 2022. Peggy Bjornson seconded. President Erickson asked for additions or corrections. The minutes were approved with no additions or corrections.

**5. Review of 2022 Staff and Council Reports and 2022 Audit report.**

2022 Staff and Council reports and the 2022 Audit report (2021 financial records) were posted in advance of the meeting. President asked if there were any comments or questions. Hearing none, the reports will be filed.

**6. Review of the 2023 Mission Spending Plan**

John Brown, CELC Administrator reviewed the 2022 financials and thanked the financial team for their service: Ann Bruce, Treasurer, Sharoll Blodgett, Bookkeeper, and the weekly counters,

John Brown presented the 2023 Mission Spending Plan in which he is projecting \$415,452 in income and \$429,566 in expenses which leads to a projected loss of \$14,114. Our main expense is salaries, and we gave all employees a 5% raise for 2023. We have also raised the rent for our 3 churches by \$200 a month and raised rent for AA also. We are hoping for a \$21,000 gain income and will try to keep expenses in line with 2022.

In comparing 2022 budget with 2022 actual numbers our expenses were \$36,400 less than income because giving was down and expenses were up by \$12,900 over 2021. Our actual loss for the year was \$14,000 from the general fund. We refinanced our mortgage in Feb. of 2022

and have stopped making extra principal payments on the mortgage. This allowed us to establish and pay a communication manager's salary of approximately \$12,000/year. We will have ongoing expenses for the backflow valve and sewer project into 2023 of about \$22,000. These are currently being paid from Designated Funds.

We had a gain of \$34,000 in equity in 2022 and have a continuing mortgage liability of \$827,000.

## 7. Declaration of a quorum

President Erickson confirmed with the tellers that a quorum was present.

## 8. Nominating Committee Report

President Erickson presented the nominations for Council positions. She then asked for nominations for each position from the floor. Hearing none, nominations closed.

### a. Council positions

1. Evangelism – 2-year term – Judy Turnen
2. Facility and Maintenance – 2-year term - Randy Heibel
3. Health – 2- year term - Kathy Williams
4. Stewardship – 2-year term - Judy Turpen
5. Outreach – 1-year term - Su Erickson
6. Worship – 1-year term - Joanne Mueske
7. Youth – 2-year term - no nomination

### b. Audit Committee for 2024

Darrel Bjornson, Janell Jenson, Keith LeFevre

## 9. Constitution and Bylaws

The Council brought the motion to update the CELC constitution and bylaws.

- Approve to amend the CELC Constitution to conform to the 2022 ELCA Model Constitution for Congregations
- Approve C12.01: Remove the **requirement** of youth and young adult. The voting membership of the Congregation Council shall consist of the pastor(s), the officers of congregation and not less than six (6) or more than eighteen (18) members of the congregation, ~~at least one of which shall be a youth and at least one of whom shall be a young adult.~~
- Approve C13.02: Change number of people on nominating committee from six to **five** and **appoint by Congregation Council** rather than elect at annual meeting.
- A Nominating Committee of ~~six~~ **five** voting members of this congregation, two of whom shall be outgoing members of the council, shall be ~~elected at the annual meeting~~ **appointed by the Congregation Council** for a term of one year.

- Approve the CELC Bylaws as presented

#### **10. Solar Project**

Motion presented from Council to pursue the lease option with SCP Solar to install and provide solar to CELC. There was a brief discussion with a question about adding a battery back up for the facilities.

#### **11. Casting of Written Congregational ballot**

Ballots were distributed to attendees and votes were cast for Council members, the 2023 Mission Spending Plan, Constitution and Bylaws and Solar project.

#### **12. Appointment of the 2023 Nominating committee**

No volunteers for committee. The Council will appoint a nominating committee.

#### **13. Recognition of out-going council members and other ministry volunteers**

President Erickson and Pastor Gallen thanked outgoing council members for serving and presented them with a gift. Connie Sornsins – Stewardship/Vice President, Elizabeth Richardson – Youth, Jeri Nowatka – Outreach, and Olga Blanchard – Health/Parish Nurse. Marian See was also recognized for her years of service as Altar Guild Coordinator and was presented with a special gift made by the CELC quilters.

#### **14. Report from Tellers**

President Erickson called for election results. 61 ballots were cast. All ballot items were approved : election of council members, constitution and bylaws, solar project, 2023 Mission Spending Plan.

#### **15. Closing Comments and Prayer**

President Erickson called for closing comments. Someone suggested painting the Building B sanctuary. President Erickson took note and referred the item to the Facilities and Maintenance committee. There was a thank you to Miloy for leading praise and worship, as well as Pastor Jeff for his continued service and inspiration. Pastor Gallen led closing prayer.

#### **16. Adjournment**

Connie Sornsins moved to adjourn the meeting. Wes Yost seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

*Approved at CELC Annual Meeting 1-28-2024*