

MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINUTES
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

January 26, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Gerstenberger. A quorum was in attendance (69 attendees).

Opening Prayer – Jeff Gerstenberger

Acceptance of Minutes – The January 27, 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting minutes were reviewed. Motioned and Passed. The November 4, 2019 Special Congregation Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Motioned and Passed.

Report of the Pastor – Pastor Aileen Robbins submitted her written report. She thanked those who were ending terms on Council for their service- Cathy Coe, Tom Johnson, and Jeff Ulreich. She thanked all in the congregation for their hard work in continuing Messiah's ministries and developing important new ministries during 2019. She also thanked Jeff Gerstenberger for his leadership as president during this busy year.

Report of the Pastoral Assistant- Pastor Hans Irmer submitted his written report. He thanked the congregation for this opportunity to serve.

Report of Director of Music – Dr. Willie LaFavor submitted his written report in Annual Report booklet. He thanked the congregation for supporting our music ministries with their hard work.

Report of the Council President - Jeff Gerstenberger submitted his written report. He outlined the amazing ministries that have thrived in our congregation during 2019 and thanked everyone for their involvement and hard work. He also pointed out our new congregational goals and the major updates to the Church Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions.

Ministry Reports – Written in the Annual Report Booklet.

Constitution Approval- Jeff noted that we are voting to approve the same document that was approved at the Special Congregational Meeting November 4, 2019. Motion to accept moved by Amy Trichanh and seconded by L J Schneider. Vote was taken by written ballot. (67- Yes and 0 – no) Motion approved.

Council Elections:

Class of 2023 (nominated for three year terms)

Laurie Simonson- Communications (1st term)

Ellen Meyer- Adult Faith Formation (2nd term)

Amy Trichanh- At large member (1st term)

Mary Sonnevile- Finance Director (1st term)

Motion made to elect the nominees as presented by John Corman , and seconded by Rod Speer. Written ballots submitted. Motion approved. (69 - Yes, 0 - No)

Synod Assembly Representatives Election- Tarra Hartmann and Shelly Knapp were nominated to be Messiah's representatives to the synod assembly. Motion made by Larry Dennis, seconded by Susan Orlando, and approved by voice vote.

Endowment Fund Board Election – Motion was made by Mark Sutliff to elect Jerry Niemi and Brad Roberts (1st three-year term for each), seconded by Bob Ulreich, and approved.

Messiah 2019 Financial Highlights

Income for the year was \$318,903.18, 1.2% above budgeted amount.

Unbudgeted Benevolences increased by 2.3% to \$13,146.66.

Expenses were \$10,079.81 less than the budgeted amount.

\$11,150.00 was returned to the "Concord" Designated Fund.

\$13,982.99 was transferred to the "Greater Messiah Fund."

Pledges for 2020 were up by 8% (\$19,296) over 2019.

2020 Proposed Budget - Presentation, discussion of budget – total \$331,500, increased from 2019 budget of \$315,000. A motion was made John Corman, seconded by Larry Dennis and approved unanimously to adopt the 2020 Proposed Budget.

Foundation for the Future Capital Campaign- The original goal was \$450,000. \$431,536 has been pledged, of which \$433,221 has been received to date. Pledges and additional gifts will be received through February 2020.

Projects completed

- Sanctuary HVAC
- Parking Lot
- Sanctuary Roof
- Outside HVAC unit replacement
- Office Area and Narthex HVAC

To be completed: Phase III - Lower Level HVAC

2020 Capital Planning – Potential Projects

Optimization of the new HVAC system

Bylaws Approval- A motion was made to approve the same Bylaws document that was endorsed at the Special Congregational Meeting November 4, 2019. The motion was made by Jeff Ulreich and seconded by Rod Speer. It was approved by voice vote.

Continuing Resolutions- A motion was made approve the same Continuing Resolutions document that was endorsed at the Special Congregational Meeting November 4, 2019. The motion was made by Jeff Ulreich and seconded by Rod Speer. It was approved by voice vote.

Extension of Council members' terms-A motion was made by Joyce Callen to extend the following Council members' terms from two years to three years.

Jeff Gerstenberger

Reggie Renz

Tarra Hartmann

Seconded by Jane Graves-Wright and approved.

Sanctuary Seating - Pastor Aileen explained that we currently have two teams exploring options and gathering information for making our sanctuary space more flexible to meet the needs of our ministries. The current pews will have to be replaced and cannot be repaired any longer. This expanded scope has the following three areas of focus:

- Overall use of sanctuary space

- Enhanced sense of community during worship

- Use of art in the sanctuary to tell our story of faith

She facilitated a discussion and answered some questions.

It was motioned, seconded and approved that we adjourn.

Closing Prayer by Pastor Aileen Robbins

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Meyer, Secretary