

Governing Board Minutes

November 13, 2018 – **APPROVED 1/15/2019**

Jo Lynn Yeutsy was the guest director. She said things with the preschool were going well and they had a very good consignment sale. Their biggest challenge is getting the enrollment where they would like it to be.

Call to Order

President Scott Strachan called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. Board members Anne Sheeley, Craig Grundmeier, Brian Frantum, Martha Raecker, Greg Carstensen, Ruth Ebke, Kurt Kromminga, and Jennifer Jaschen were in attendance.

Consent Agenda and Minutes

Martha Raecker made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Craig Grundmeier seconded. Motion passed.

Reports

Senior Pastor Joe Meyer's report:

- a. 60+ were welcomed in as new members at the services on November 11.
- b. A combined Giving Tree effort of \$20 will be able to provide a pair of expandable shoes for children in poorer countries and a birth kit for mothers in Uganda.
- c. Compassion International interviewed Pastor Meyer for a publication they use to provide encouragement to Pastors to partner with Compassion in ways that we have already: Adopting children; The Compassion Experience. He will now be interviewed for an article for a publication and blog that benefits Pastors looking for professional development which will go out to 10,000 Pastors.
- d. Pastor Petrak has started working with Living Faith Lutheran Church in Clive for just 10 hours a week at present. He remains our Called Worker and is also a full-time Prof at DMACC.

Executive director Chris Thomson's report:

- a. Giving continues to trend very well against the budget and last year. We are currently 9% above budget for the year. We did have 5 Sundays in September this year and in October we received a \$25,000 charitable donation gift which contributed to the totals.
- b. Expenses remain well contained at below last year and below budget. Chris handed out a breakout of facility expenses which included the expenses for the new door and electric motor installations which were not received in time to show up in the last fiscal year. The total for all expenses was \$33,506.27. The FLC heat went out which is another \$500-\$600 expense. The facilities section of the budget will need an overspend request in 2019 because of this.

- c. A graph of the mortgage balance and monthly interest payments was included in the Sunday handout to the congregation. This is an effort to keep this information in front of the congregation. The mortgage balance had been reduced by \$350,000 in one year, while also reducing our monthly interest payment by \$2,041.
- d. Our website giving page now has a link to the new giving platform, Subsplash. The relationship with Vanco will continue through the fiscal year end as the Tiny Treasure tuition payments are running through that system.

Financial by Brian Frantum:

Spending is down and giving is up. We are currently \$90,000 ahead of budget.

Attendance by Chris Thomson:

Chris sent out graphs which showed that over the past 24 months there has been a slight upward movement in the 9:30 and 11 AM sanctuary services with little change in the 8 AM service. In the FLC, there are clear trends in both the Saturday night and Sunday morning services.

Current Discussion and/or Action Items:

- a. The voting on Synod Officer Elections will be delayed till January as it is not due till late Feb.
- b. There were no items on the congregational listening post.
- c. The next board meeting will be January 15.
- d. Monitoring Affirmation: "How My Son With Down Syndrome Is Teaching Me The Richness Of A Small, Unhurried Life."

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. followed by the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Ebke