

Congregational Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2023 – **APPROVED 10/29/23**

Call to Order

President of the Governing Board, Craig Grundmeier called the meeting to order at 1:05pm. Approximately 136 members were in attendance in person and 5 households joined online.

Opening Prayer

President Craig Grundmeier opened with a prayer.

Approval of October 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

Dave Maasen made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 2022 congregational meeting. Jim Weirich seconded. The motion passed.

Senior Pastor's Report

Pastor Joe first thanked the church for being a blessing to both him and his family. He brought a copy of Luther's Sacristy Prayer from his office and shared it as a reminder of God doing the work within the church.

He shared a passage from 1 Corinthians 3, remembering that this is about Jesus and what God is doing in the church. This church is blessed with talented staff and amazing lay people in our congregation. Worship attendance has increased, essentially having two churches with the sanctuary and FLC. God is blessing us richly, getting us through Covid virtually unscathed. We are on an upward trajectory and it is a good time for Pastor Joe to retire.

Pastor Joe says that he and Robin plan to remain members of the congregation. He shared how much he loves and appreciates the members of the church. He gives thanks for what the church has done for Robin and himself and looks forward to what God will do with this church in the future.

Vote:

1. Call Process & Ministry Action Team Organization
 - a. Pastor provided additional information regarding the Call Process and a projected timeline until a Lead Pastor is called.
 - b. There was a question asked if a current Pastor on staff is called as the Lead Pastor, with clarity provided that it would be up to the vision of the new Lead Pastor and allow him the opportunity to decide whether or not to initiate a call process to replace him.
 - c. Voting to enter into the Call Process for a Lead Pastor: 272 voting yes, 3 voting no and 1 with no response.
 - d. Voting to allow the Governing Board to form a Ministry Action Team for the purpose of extending a Call for Lead Pastor: 276 yes, 0 no.
2. Bylaws Approval
 - a. There was a clarifying question posed regarding "present at the meeting" and why it was struck through. With absentee voting, members no longer are required to be at the meeting and can vote ahead of time by ballot.
 - b. Voting to allow the Constitution and Bylaw strike throughs previously published: 238 yes, 34 no responses.

Results of Voting

There were 140 signed ballots turned in prior to the meeting with an additional 136 signed ballots turned in during the meeting.

Closing Prayer

Craig Grundmeier offered a closing prayer.

Adjournment

The congregation meeting was adjourned at 1:39pm by Governing Board President Craig Grundmeier.

Respectfully submitted by Jacque Thole