

## Governing Board Minutes

January 15, 2019 - **APPROVED 2/19/2019**

Pastor Tim Phillips was the guest director. He reviewed some of the many things he was responsible for last year. He kept visitation records and there were 450 for the year. He did 18 funerals, sends out daily devotions, 2 bible studies/week, oversees Financial Peace classes, oversees Stephan Ministry, GriefShare, loss of spouse (new in Jan.), coordinates worship assistants, plus so much more. He has 39 going to Israel, 2/3 of these are from Gloria Dei.

Anne Sheeley had the devotion, "What do you treasure above all?"

### **Call to Order**

President Scott Strachan called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Board members Anne Sheeley, Craig Grundmeier, Martha Raecker, Greg Carstensen, Ruth Ebke, Kurt Kromminga, and Jennifer Jaschen were in attendance. Executive Director Chris Thomson was also present. Brian Frantum was absent, as well as Pastor Joe Meyer.

### **Consent Agenda and Minutes**

Anne Sheeley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Martha Raecker seconded. Motion passed.

### **Reports**

Senior Pastor Joe Meyer's report:

- a. Chris Thomson briefly reviewed the ongoing activities in the absence of Pastor Meyer. These included current/completed projects as well as upcoming projects.
- b. The letter written to the congregation concerning women as worship assistants was well received by the Board.
- c. Jo Lynn Yeutsy has had strong enrollment trends for next year. This could be due to Olmsted closing.
- d. DeAnn's Christmas Brunch was a success and she feels it is an event to keep!

Financials: Chris Thomson

- a. There was a decrease in giving during November and December of 2018 vs. the budget. Could be due to heavier giving earlier in the year or a difficult stock market in the fourth quarter.
- b. Expenses are below budget so we are actually \$12,000 ahead of last year. We may need an overspend depending on facility expenses coming up in the future.
- c. A donor family gave \$50,000 to the mortgage pay down. This leaves us under \$475,000 on the mortgage balance.
- d. LCEF is offering a 40-month note at 4% which will likely be taken advantage of. The maximum we can invest in this product is \$40k. Chris is looking at this investment for the Foundation as there is a CD maturing in late January.

Attendance: Chris Thomson

- a. Christmas Eve attendance increased by 8% over last year.
- b. Attendance the first week-end of January had increased but decreased the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend due to the weather.

### **Current Discussion and/or Action Items**

- a. There was some discussion on the letter written by Pastor Matthew C. Harrison. It was felt that we would follow Pastor Joe's recommendation on the vote. Kurt Kromminga made a motion to approve Pastor Meyer and Scott Strachan as voters at Synod's convention. Jennifer Jaschen seconded. Motion passed.
- b. The Foundation met November 2018. They voted to continue the Foundation with a 4-2 vote. The Foundation felt that they needed to review and update by-laws, needed to create an investment policy statement and establish the ability to gift earnings as well as corpus (up to 25%) as determined appropriate by the committee. The committee recommends the Foundation be reviewed in the next 3-5 years to gauge the growth and reevaluate the Foundation as to it being a viable tool for GDLC. Craig Grundmeier made a motion to approve the Foundation Board's recommendations. Ruth Ebke seconded. Motion passed.
- c. Pastor Tim will celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination in June. A recognition of this will probably occur in May.
- d. In the congregational survey it was determined that the Governing Board needs to be more engaged for them to know who is on the Board, possibly becoming more proactive between services. Anne Sheeley will develop a sign up sheet for the Board members to take dates and times at services to become more visible. Scott Strachan will check into name badges for the Board members.
- e. Kurt Kromminga brought up the idea of a button by the outside doors for the handicapped plus the need for wheelchair ramps. Chris Thomson said this would be looked into and has already been discussed.
- f. The Board will come up with ideas on celebrating staff on "special days."

### **Housekeeping**

- a. The next Board meeting will be February 19<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Ruth Ebke will have the devotions.
- c. Pastor Meyer will have his annual report draft.

### **Adjournment**

The Governing Board meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m. followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Ebke

