

Lord of Life Lutheran Church
2020 Annual Congregation Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2020

- Attendees: Names recorded on attendance sheets passed around before meeting.

Invocation and Vision & Mission Statements

- Copies of the 2019 Annual Report and minutes for the January 27, 2019 Annual Congregation Meeting were distributed.
- Chuck Hoffheiser called the meeting to order at 12:26 pm on January 26, 2020 and welcomed the congregation to the Annual Meeting.
- Pastor Gary Heath opened with a prayer and led a reading of the liturgy and singing of the song from the back cover of the Annual Report.
- Chuck Hoffheiser reviewed the meeting agenda and announced that Mike Nicolosi would be the meeting's Parliamentarian. He then led a unison recitation of the new Vision and Mission statements.

Approval of Minutes & Council 2019 Goals

- Chuck Hoffheiser asked the attendees to spend a few minutes reviewing the minutes.
- Jeff Zetto made a motion that the minutes for the January 27, 2019 Annual Congregation Meeting be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded by Dennis Coburn, and it was unanimously approved by voice vote.
- Chuck Hoffheiser reviewed a slide showing the Council's 2019 goals and their current completion status.

Introduction of Council Candidate Slate & Voting

- Chuck Hoffheiser read the slate of five nominees for the four open positions on the 2020 Council:
 - Bob Arend
 - Kent Frappier
 - Lori Hughes
 - Elise McCarter
 - Roxy Waguespack
- Chuck Hoffheiser emphasized that the candidate receiving the fifth most votes should not consider themselves to have "lost" the election and would be available to fill a Council seat if an opening arises during the year.
- Chuck Hoffheiser asked three times for nominations from the floor. None were offered.
- Becky Skodack made a motion to close the nominations. The motion was seconded by Judy Frappier, and it was unanimously approved by voice vote.
- Chuck Hoffheiser asked the nominees to stand to be introduced. Lori Hughes was not in attendance.
- Ballots were distributed to the congregation. The meeting continued as results were tabulated.

2019 Financial Status

- Chuck Hoffheiser reviewed the WOA Kitchen Project results. He advised that since the Project Team had completed the kitchen renovation almost \$80k below budget, there is WOA money still available that the Council is using to complete several other small renovation projects to the building.
- Chuck Hoffheiser introduced Brian Dawson, Chairman of the Finance Committee. He asked the members of his committee to stand and be recognized.
- Brian Dawson reviewed a summary of the financial status (revenue and expenses) of the WOA campaign for Inception-to-date and 2019.
- Brian Dawson reviewed a summary of the financial status (revenue and expenses) of the WOA tithe for Inception-to-date and 2019 and then listed a few examples of entities receiving the benevolence gifts.

- Brian Dawson reviewed a 2019 operational budget recap, showing 2019 revenue and expenses as compared to the approved 2019 budget. He then reviewed a summary of revenue and expenses for the past 6 years, beginning with 2014.

Approval of 2020 Budget

- Brian Dawson reviewed the proposed 2020 Budget. During his discussion, Brian reviewed: The budget process and major assumptions; the proposed 2020 Budget as compared to 2019 actual performance both in total and by major expenditure account; how 2019 actual expenditures were built-up on an account basis to create the 2020 Budget. He later commented that copies of results of the recent financial audit could be found at each of the tables and that the Finance Committee is seeking a new chairperson.
- Michael Riewe commented that for much of 2019, collections were running behind budget, but December collections were much higher than usual and more than made up the earlier shortfall. He and Brian Dawson then commented that at a future Congregation Meeting, the Council may propose to change the LOL fiscal year so that it ends May 31. This will make budgeting much easier because the amount of December collections is critical to its accuracy, yet the information isn't received until the current fiscal year has already ended.
- Chuck Hoffheiser asked that a motion be made to approve the 2020 Budget.
- Ed Ross made a motion that the proposed 2020 Budget totaling \$1,299,749 be approved as reviewed. Jim Card seconded the motion.
- Dave Zimmerman referenced his and others' concerns with a memorial recently approved at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly and made a motion that the Synod Tithe in the proposed 2020 Budget be reduced by 30% and the withheld amount be given to Lutheran World Relief (LWR). Tom Pinney seconded this motion. During the discussion period, clarity was asked for and was provided as to what was being proposed and why. It was also mentioned that the ELCA "Listener" would be visiting LOL on February 23 and could address individuals' concerns about actions taken at the Churchwide Assembly.
- Gerald Bourque made a motion to table the motion made by David Zimmerman and instead direct the LOL Council to study David Zimmerman's proposal and report back to the Congregation for their approval as to whether it recommends that 30% of the proposed Synod tithe be redirected to LWR. Jim Card seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion was approved but received several "nays".
- Rick Hopkins made a motion to: 1) "Send a message" by reducing monthly payments to the Synod by 10% and giving the withheld amount to LWR; and 2) Directing the Council to study the issue and report back to the Congregation for their approval as to whether this action should be continued or rescinded. Tom Pinney seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken, and the motion failed but received several "ayes".
- A voice vote was taken of the earlier motion that the 2020 Budget totaling \$1,299,749 be approved as reviewed. The motion was approved with one "nay" and two abstentions.

Endowment Funds, Hands of Faith, and Kids of the Kingdom Updates

- Jim Card reviewed the work of the Endowment Funds Roll-out and Administrative Committees. He said that a goal has been set to seed the "Mission in Ministry" and "Mission in Facilities" funds in 2020 by \$100k each and that opportunities would be provided during the 50th anniversary celebration for LOL members to help reach this goal.
- Jim Card referenced a mailing previously sent to congregation members that proposed wording changes to be made to the "Continuing Resolution Establishing LOL Mission Endowment Funds" that was adopted by vote of the congregation in January 2017. Chuck Hoffheiser asked for a motion to approve the changes.
- Debbie Olson made a motion to approve the recommended wording changes to the "Continuing Resolution Establishing LOL Mission Endowment Funds" that was originally adopted by vote of the congregation in January 2017. Ed Ross seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by voice vote. During the discussion period, questions were raised as to whether the Endowment Funds are subject to the LOL audit

process (they are); how the proposed wording changes will affect the work of the Outreach Committee (they won't); and where Endowment Funds are invested (primarily with Raymond James).

- Lisa Rose provided an update of the Hands of Faith ministry and recognized the volunteers that work with this ministry.
- Michelle McGuire provided an update of the Kids of the Kingdom Ministry. She commented that KOK has been a ministry of LOL for 25 years; that they are licensed for 120 children with a current enrollment of 102; and that they have 22 staff members.

Approval of 2019 Synod Assembly Delegates

- Chuck Hoffheiser read the slate of candidates nominated to be LOL delegates at the 2020 Synod Assembly:
 - Ed & Ann Spaulding
 - Brian & Tonya Dawson
 - Chuck Hoffheiser
 - Ken & Judy Frappier (alternates)
- Pastor Gary Heath made a motion to approve the slate of 2020 Synod Assembly delegates as presented. The motion was seconded by Billy Forester, and it was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Vision 2020 & Realm

- Ben Kessler reviewed the process used by the Long Range Planning Committee in updating the LOL, Vision, Mission and Values statements and reviewed the statements themselves.
- Chuck Hoffheiser asked for a motion to approve the new statements.
- Pastor Gary Heath made a motion that the new Vision, Mission and Values statements be approved as presented. The Motion was seconded by Ken Frappier, and it was unanimously approved by voice vote.
- Tommy Eubanks showed a brief video about the new Realm connection software platform that is being rolled-out in LOL and answered a couple of questions.

Council Member Balloting Results

- Chuck Hoffheiser asked that the outgoing Council members stand and be recognized (Bill Lutz, Elise McCarter, Gifton Underwood, and Kristin Vacha), and announced that the following people had been elected to serve on the 2020 LOL Congregation Council:
 - Bob Arend
 - Lori Hughes
 - Elise McCarter
 - Roxy Waguespack

Adjournment

- Gerald Bourque introduced and said a few words about Pastor Carl Hansen, a former pastor at LOL who had preached that morning.
- Pastor David Bauser provided a closing prayer.
- Pastor Gary Heath thanked Chuck Hoffheiser for his service to the church, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Fincher
LOL Council Secretary