

## Congregational Meeting 9/21/2014

10:45 Meeting called to order by Heather Heckel

### Agenda

#### 1. Approval of Constitution

- a. Sarah Vaughan presented a discussion as to why the congregation needs to vote on a new constitution. Christ Lutheran's constitution has not been updated in many years, and the ELCA requires that every church have an updated constitution that conforms to the model constitution structure as posted on elca.org
- b. Most of the changes made to the constitution are mandatory
- c. There was flexibility in the model constitution
  - i. To exclude sections that do not apply to Christ Lutheran
  - ii. To add in sections that do apply to Christ Lutheran
    1. We added a section (C13.04) that defines the Support of Ministry committee
- d. Discussions:
  - i. Bob Boclair questioned the numbering of the sections in the constitution, some of them are not sequential
    1. Sarah answered that there are two reasons for the skip.
      - a. To include new sections at a later date
      - b. Sections that do not pertain to Christ Lutheran were omitted.
      - c. This method keeps the numbering consistent among churches.
      - d. Both are acceptable to the synod and ELCA, and fit within the scope of the model constitution
  - ii. Bob Boclair questioned the amendment describing the Support of Ministry Committee.
    1. Is this committee to replace the Staff Relations committee?
    2. What purpose does this change serve?
    3. Pastor Moehring answered that this does replace the Staff Relations committee. The change in structures tightens the procedures of the committee and offers more flexibility as compared to the previous definition of the Staff Relations Committee. The current description includes more detail regarding the scope and responsibilities of the committee.
- e. A motion was made and seconded to approve the new constitution. The vote was unanimous (no abstentions or nay votes)

#### 2. Election of 2015-2017 Congregational Council Members

- a. 3 members had agreed to serve on council for the upcoming 2 year period: Allison Dry, Jim Schnellenberger, and Jim Pickels.
- b. Although there are 6 council seats to be filled, our constitution does not require 12 council members. We can have no more than 12 council members, but there is no minimum number of council members.

- c. The floor was opened for more nominations.
  - i. Tinky Keen nominated Judy Garnett
  - ii. Judy Garnett agreed to serve
- d. The motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved electing 4 members to serve on congregational council.
  - i. Allison Dry
  - ii. Judy Garnett
  - iii. Jim Pickels
  - iv. Jim Schnellenberger.
- 3. Update from the Vision Task Force
  - a. Greg Faust gave a brief overview of the work the Vision Task Force has accomplished since its inception
    - i. A Survey to get input from the congregation about how they see our congregation and how they feel we can move forward
    - ii. Jennifer John is meeting with community members to see how our congregation can serve our community.
      - 1. Some of the God's Work, Our Hands Rally day event supported Moody Middle School
      - 2. More events are planned for the future
  - b. Kathi Charlson presented the next phase
    - i. Hold cottage meetings, divided roughly by regional areas, to further discuss the vision of our church and to develop ideas for more ways to serve our community and each other.
    - ii. Some ideas have already come from the first cottage meeting facilitators meeting!
      - 1. Name tags.
      - 2. A contemporary service
      - 3. Growing together
      - 4. Expansion of the scope of stewardship
      - 5. Budget items:
        - a. Staffed nursery
        - b. Paid intern (seminary student)
- 4. Proposes Budget discussions
  - a. Glen Kellogg led a discussion of the 2015 and onward budgets. The budget group goal is to work with the vision task force and help create a realistic budget that the congregation can support.
  - b. The committee created two sample budgets—an optimistic budget for 2015 of ~\$349,000 and a minimal (referred to as pessimistic) budget of ~\$302,000
    - i. The major differences between the two budgets include
      - 1. Compensation for staff
        - a. Optimistic--\$183,640
        - b. Minimal--\$177,453
      - 2. Benevolence giving:
        - a. Optimistic--\$26,400
        - b. Minimal--\$5,928
      - 3. Property maintenance

- a. Optimistic--\$20,000
    - b. Minimal--\$6,500
  - c. The 2014 pledge amount was \$292,820, and the combined pledge and Pray it Forward campaign totaled \$330,257. Our expenses decreased significantly when Pastor Hunsinger accepted a call to serve in New Jersey. The extra funds were placed in the church's reserve and increased synod benevolence
  - d. Pastor Moehring stated that the Pray it Forward campaign's purpose was to set us up well for the future, and encouraged members to keep up the Pray it Forward commitment through the end of the year.
5. Stewardship Update
- a. Jim Ingraham presented a quick overview of the upcoming Stewardship campaign.
  - b. The Stewardship campaign will kick off next week (9/28/2014), and will run through 11/2/2014