

Minutes of Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 24, 2016
10:45 a.m.

Following potluck brunch, Bishop Kirby Unti opened with welcome and words of encouragement from the Northwest Washington Synod of the ELCA.

Pastor Heidi Fish opened the meeting with prayer and reviewed notes from yesterday's Congregational Mission Planning Retreat (see attached notes). We broke into small groups and brainstormed which things we'd like to pursue and how we can get these done. (see attached notes from this discussion)

Heidi also mentioned that many people at the planning retreat suggested that we spend more social time together. Cynthia Aanestad has volunteered to head our Social Committee, having previously been named our "Maven of Fun". Cynthia distributed a survey to get an idea of what sorts of events folks want to see us offer.

Outgoing Secretary Vickie Corley re-created minutes from last year's meeting, and read them to us.
MSP to approve those minutes as presented.

President Doug Miller highlighted his written report (see attached report).

Pastor Heidi highlighted several items from her written report (see attached report), along with a correction that our average worship attendance for 2015 was 28, not 25. She asked for help with researching and writing grants.

Outgoing Treasurer Lisa Matthews presented year-end financials for 2015 (see attached financials).
MSP to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Lisa was presented with flowers and thanks for her excellent and understandable reports for these past four years.

Lisa presented the proposed budget for 2016 (see attached budget) and described the process of congregational participation that produced its basis last Fall. We have a goal of holding \$8-9,000 in a reserve fund equal to 10% of our annual expenses to even out cash flow through the normal cycles of giving through the year. If the planned income and expenses of this budget are achieved, we would end the year with \$6,910 toward that goal.

Janice Miller moved and Sybil Graham seconded the motion ***that the \$2,249 from Thrivent Choice Dollars on our balance sheet be moved into that reserve account at this time. MSP.***

Janice Miller moved and Sarah Hill seconded the motion ***that any funds returned to the congregation from the Komo Kulshan Cluster's final distribution be moved into that reserve account. MSP.***

There was discussion about the distribution of our 5% local benevolence, and the need of the Latino ministries to be able to plan ahead. Sarah Hill moved and Tim Nelson seconded the motion ***that we give El Camino de Emmaus and Resurrección the same dollar amount that we gave in 2015, and that the anticipated difference of \$700 be given to other local missions. MSP.*** The Leadership Team will sponsor an (annual?) review of those benevolence recipients to ensure that the congregation regularly participates in the decision regarding where those benevolence dollars are directed.

The Proposed 2016 Budget was adopted with these changes. MSP. Vickie Corley will prepare an updated budget and send it out.

Doug presented the slate of nominees to serve as our Leadership Team, noting that our rotation has fallen out of sync, such that all of our LT positions are expiring at the same time! The LT has proposed to get the rotation back on track by electing LT members to differing terms today. It was noted that our constitution states that the LT consists of the pastor(s), the (4) officers of the congregation, and not more than 7 members of the congregation. That allows us to have as many as 12 on our LT. The slate of nominees presented are:

Doug Miller, President (2 year term)
Carlos Aguero, Vice-President (2 year term)
Vickie Corley, Treasurer (1 year term)
Joyce Kane, Secretary (2 year term)
Ken Bosworth, At-Large (1 year term)

There were no nominations or volunteers from the floor. Susan Wood moved and Lenore Peterson seconded **that we accept the new slate of Leadership Team. MSP – unanimously!** Members were encouraged to consider taking their turns serving on the Leadership Team in the future. Pastor Heidi noted that this is the healthiest and most effective LT she has ever worked with, and that folks need not be afraid to volunteer!

Barbara and Carlos Aguero were nominated to serve as our Voting Members to the 2016 NW-WA Synod Assembly in May, and Lenore Peterson and Dave Dettman to serve as alternates. MSP with gratitude.

Susan Wood was thanked for her music ministry in our midst, and presented with a gift bag of appreciation!

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Kane, Secretary, and the Leadership Team of Celebration Lutheran Church
January 25, 2017