

**Faith Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting
January 31, 2021**

And if the house be worthy, let your peace come on it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you. (Mathew 10:13)

ATTENDANCE: 19 attendees in person, 20 attendees online. Sign in sheets available in office file.

President Bruce Trevithick called the meeting to order at 12:12pm

Opening Devotion and Prayer were led by Pastor Biermann

Minutes of the annual meeting held January 26, 2020 were reviewed by Phil Whitmer, secretary. Motion to approve was made and supported. Minutes approved by congregation.

Introduction of Staff and Board

Bruce Trevithick introduced staff members in attendance as well as Board members attending. Bruce acknowledged that staff/board members' reports are available with Annual Report packet that has been made available to the congregation ahead of this meeting. Copy is also on file in the Church office.

Introduction of Elders and Elders Report:

Matt Guinn introduced those Elders present and acknowledged those Elders that were unable to attend today. Matt shared the annual report from the Elders. He then reviewed the updates to Church membership that had transpired over the year. "A Measure of Faith's Growth Under God's Grace" was included with the Annual Report packet. Motion to approve the membership changes as presented was made and supported. Motion was approved.

Constitution Exemption for V.P. of Property & Maintenance

Bruce reviewed the 6 consecutive year provision in the constitution that limits any member from holding any one board position for longer than 6 consecutive years. Bruce requested that an exemption be allowed for the position of Vice President of Property and Maintenance be approved by the congregation in order to allow Sam Siegel to continue in this position for another term. Motion was made in support of this request, supported and passed by a unanimous vote of the congregation (Mr. Siegel abstained from this vote).

District and Synod Convention:

Bruce updated the congregation to the fact that both conventions were being postponed due to existing Covid-19 concerns. Also informed the congregation that due to these postponements that the existing officers and boards would be kept intact for an additional year.

District Position Nominations

Pastor Biermann further discussed the postponement of the District and Synod conventions. Stated that even though they had been postponed that he and the board of directors felt it to be necessary to submit nominations for various positions that would be coming up for a vote. The Board had already approved names that could be submitted by Faith Lutheran. Pastor Biermann named each open position and the proposed nominee, as approved by the Board, to the congregation for consideration and subsequent vote. The names and positions were: Rev. David Davis of Haslett for District President, Rev. Eric Cloeter of Clio for Regional V.P., Rev. Bradley Hubbard of Frankenmuth for Regional Position on the District Board of Directors, Rev. Mark Pretznof of Flint for a Regional Position on the District Nominations Com., Rev. Craig Bickel of Grand Rapids for District Secretary. Motion to support the entire slate as presented was made, supported and approved.

Faith Lutheran Church – Financial Discussion

Ken Duetsch, Vice-president of Finance, presented an overview of the 2020-21 fiscal year through the first 11 months (12th month not available prior to meeting). Pointed out that while projected income had fallen somewhat short that projected expenses had been significantly less than projected. Net income therefore for the 11 months being reported is just over \$75,000 to the good. Financial report for the period February 2020 through January 2021 is included in the Annual Report packet as well as on file in the Church office. Mr. Duetsch then presented some of the highlights from the past year:

- New Accounting System in place (Quickbooks)
- Payroll outsourced to ADP
- Transition continues from Marge Taylor to in-house accounting with Alicen Dub
- Electronic/Online giving up from approximately 14% in prior year to over 40% in 2020.

Ken then discussed the proposed budget for 2021-2022. Reviewed projected revenues of \$1,058,945, and projected expenses of \$1,163,305 with a bottom line result of a deficit of \$71,538. Projected increase of revenues was set at 1%. Of note – no salary increases were approved unless a change of job duties takes place. Full details of the proposed budget are included with the Annual Report packet. Motion to accept the proposed budget was made, motion was seconded. Discussion and clarification of certain figures ensued. Vote was called for and the motion was approved.

Capital Campaign

Bruce updated the congregation as to discussions held by the Board and outside advisors as to the proposed capital campaign that had been planned to start with the Fall 2020 but had been postponed. Inquired if the congregation would be in support of reviewing this possibility for Fall 2021. Discussion was held and ultimately it was decided that the time is not right to conduct such a campaign successfully. Board may review again in the future as there was a positive vibe that many of the congregation felt that it would ultimately be a good thing.

Closing Comments/Questions

Bruce provided the congregation an opportunity to ask questions and make comments.

Closing Prayer

Pastor Scott led the congregation in the closing prayer and benediction.

Adjournment

Bruce then called for a motion to close the Congregation's Annual Voters' Meeting. Motion was made, supported and passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:38pm

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Phillip W Whitmer
Secretary