

Tree of Life Church Council Meeting  
Monday, May 15, 2023 6:30 PM ZOOM Meeting

Members present: President Kevin Solberg, Vice-President Sandy McCarthy, Secretary Russ Bliese, Treasurer Jim Lemaux, Pastor Chris, Deb Zimmer, Mark Templet, Tom Gros, and Heidi Beckham. Visitor Jill Waldrop and Ikeria Green.

Absent: Peggy Little and Pat Rowe

A. President Solberg called the meeting to order@ 6:32 PM.  
Pastor Chris started the meeting with a prayer.

B. Consent Agenda

- I. Motion: Adoption of Agenda- Motion made by Lemaux and seconded by Templet. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- II. Motion: Approval of Minutes (April 17, 2023) Motion: McCarthy and seconded by Zimmer. All were in favor and the motion passed.

C. Discussion Agenda: No discussion.

D. Financial Reports

- I. Monthly statements (April 2023)  
Lemaux presented the financial report for April. The April income was \$27,411 and expenses were \$38,547 for a shortfall of \$11,136. \$509 was put back into

SEEDS. Lemaux discussed the first four months of the budget and advised that the first quarter was on target. On the expense side, \$496,000 is budgeted for the year with an estimated expense of \$500,000 for the year. On the revenue side, \$471,000 was budgeted and now it is projected to be \$491,000. A letter will be sent out to the congregation advising everyone of the downturn in April and how it is usually slow in the summer months and the need to give. The Balance Sheet showed an increase of \$2500 in the Endowment Fund due to an uptick in the stock market. \$2500 was sent to Kings Embrace. Expenses for electricity and water were up 80% and 20% respectively. Discussions will be held with the YMCA regarding the increases. Motion: McCarthy and seconded by Templet to accept the financial report. All were in favor and the motion passed.

#### E. Pastoral Report

Pastor Chris reported that there were members involved in a car wreck and they are OK. There are other members in the hospital and Ted Dinklage's brother passed away. The RIC vote will be held in May with the Synod. McConnell and Jenkins will attend. Looking for someone who lives close to the church to come up to the church for alarms or if needed by the police. Eleven children will be attending Summer camp at Luther Hill with seven children working their this summer. The trailer that was stolen and then recovered may be lost to the Synod. Kings Embrace had a board meeting and the cost for one boy is \$250 a month. They had a great corn crop this year. Pastor will go back to Kenya and can take four additional people with him to

work on issues at the facility. Paideia needs additional storage space. One of the container trailers could be rented out to them for a couple hundred dollars a month. The speakers in the sanctuary are 20 years old and need to be replaced. They cost about \$1000 each and there are two. Lights are needed and that is \$3000, to rent the equipment to reach these items will be about \$1500 for a week. The adopt a project would run about \$7,000.

#### F. Old Business

- I. RIC Update: Vote this coming weekend .
- II. Kings Embrace: Discussed in Pastor Chris report.
- III. Lutherhill: Discussed already.
- IV. Paideia: Discussed already.
- V. Oktoberfest- Still in need of someone to take the lead.
- VI. June Get Together- Moved to July.

#### G. New Business

- I. New Members: No new members to report.
- II. Adopt A Project: Already discussed.
- III. Council Retreat: Will it be needed or will there just be a get together. Will be discussed at the next council meeting.
- IV. Octoberfest: Need someone to take the lead.
- V. Anything Else: The members list was cleaned up to reflect current members with people who no longer attend TOL removed.
- VI. There will not be a council meeting in June.

H. Solberg adjourned the meeting at 8:07pm after the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Bliese

Council Secretary