

**Agenda for Tree of Life Church Council
August 26, 2019 6:30pm ZOOM Meeting**

Members Present: President Jack Zimmer, Vice-President Larry Klotz, Secretary Susie Rust, Treasurer Jim Voelz, Financial Secretary Heidi Beckham, Linda Baumgartner, Annie Lindemann, Richard Schaper, Kevin Solberg, George Timmins, Kirk Helberg

Members Absent: Pastor Chris Lake

Visitors: Vicar Carrie Petersen (hosting ZOOM meeting in place of Pastor Chris)

A. The meeting was called to order by President Jack Zimmer at 6:37 pm and Vicar Carrie Petersen opened with prayer.

B. Consent agenda

- I. **Motion:** Adoption of agenda
- II. **Motion:** Approval of minutes (July 22, 2019)

Linda Baumgartner moved to **accept the Consent agenda**; Annie Lindemann seconded. All were in favor and the **motion passed**.

C. Financial report

I. Treasurer Jim Voelz review the monthly statement from July. We are continuing with offerings a bit higher and “other income” a bit less. Dedicated funds are basically the same. An accidental oversight of a July bill from Portico (benefit package through Synod) meant doubling up to cover July and August expenses. We have an anticipated shortfall for August (\$5000), but will borrow from Seeds to cover it. There is a \$10,000 donation from the congregation to cover Vicar Carrie’s pay as she is an official TOL Intern as of this month. Treasurer Jim Voelz will talk with Pastor Chris Lake to verify use of the donation as specified.

II. Treasurer Jim Voelz has drafted a letter giving information about Income Tax consideration, specifically, QCDs (Qualified Charitable Distribution). Copies have been sent out to Council members for review. President Jack Zimmer has responded with some edits, and final copies will be distributed to Council. Office Manager Megan Dillon can supply a list of appropriate TOL recipients.

MOTION: Vice-President Larry Klotz moved to **accept the July statement and report**; Richard Schaper seconded. All were in favor and the **motion passed**.

D. Pastoral report

Vicar Carrie Petersen gave the pastoral report, substituting for Pastor Chris Lake, absent due to family obligations. The congregational update included end-of-life care and subsequent funeral for Joan Bliese at TOL, and celebration of first communion for Grace Gros. Pastor Chris officiated a wedding off campus and conducted funerals for Olin Crowley and Sue Bohac here at TOL. Pastor Chris attended and read Scripture at

Pastor Larry Smith's funeral at Highlands United Methodist Church in Highlands, Texas; TOL representation included a number of families from our congregation.

Pastor Chris has rescheduled his August trip to Bungoma, Africa (The King's Embrace) for right after Easter 2020. Vicar Carrie Petersen will work with the Stewardship Committee this Friday for the upcoming fall campaign. Pastor Chris has called Lutheran Investment Fund, but there will be no lowering of the increased interest rate on our mortgage.

Vicar Carrie Petersen has been busy as she begins her official Internship year. She has enjoyed it and looks forward to future projects. President Jack Zimmer welcomed her into internship life and the Council agrees she is doing a great job.

E. Old Business

I. President Jack Zimmer updated progress on the Employee Policy Manual. Amanda Dillon has been helping with this, as well as Matt Petersen. Corrections are completed and the final review is in progress.

II. Vice-President Larry Klotz updated progress on the Memorial Walk/Prayer Path. The schematic for Pastor Klein's brick arrived today and has been sent on to Pastor Chris. Bishop Mike Rinehart's brick has to be redone. Progress has been slow. Kevin Solberg updated progress on the TOL brochure. Pastor Chris has the information blocked out; however, we still need numbers for characters and cost of each size of brick. We also want completed bricks to photograph for the brochure.

III. Other areas of progress include:

- a. Endowment Fund Promotion and Training scheduled for Stewardship campaign
- b. 2020 Stewardship Campaign: President Jack Zimmer, Vicar Carrie Petersen, and Jim Lemaux are meeting Friday, August 30
- c. Nomination Committee for 2020 Elections, with Chairman Vice-President Larry Klotz, including President Jack Zimmer and Pastor Chris Lake.

IV. Richard Schaper reported on immediate maintenance needs and suggested a list for specific items to be included in the fall Adopt-a-Project program. He advised the money be received before we do them. These include: **Air conditioner replacement (\$7100), Outside lighting replacement (\$200 per 5 lights, totaling \$1000) and Ice maker replacement (\$2500).**

MOTION: Richard Schaper moved to **accept these 3 items as defined above for the Adopt-a-Project plan, at a total cost of \$10,600.** George Timmons seconded. Discussion followed. Vicar Carrie Petersen asked about scheduling the Adopt-a-Project before Stewardship Campaign, which begins Sept 29. It was agreed to designate Sept 1, 8, and 15, for promoting this program before the Stewardship campaign. **ACTION ITEMS:** Richard Schaper will send this information to Office manager Megan Dillon for inclusion in the weekly Branches and slides. Financial

Secretary Heidi Beckham will take the first week announcements, followed by Richard Schaper. All were in favor and the **motion passed**.

F.. New Business.

I. President Jack Zimmer suggested we move the Fall Congregational Meeting to October 6, as the scheduled date of September 15 is the Blood drive. The agenda would include the results of the Adopt-a-Project program and possibly the expense side of the 2020 Budget draft.

II. Help is needed to replace former leaders of the CARE team (Stacey Kovar) and FELLOWSHIP team (Michelle Johnson). Our Ministry Team Leaders over all the teams, Deb Zimmer and Linda Baumgartner, are making calls to address these changes. The Council can join in prayer and suggestions to meet the need. Pastor Chris and Annie Lindemann are Council liasons for the Care and Fellowship Teams.

III. Our next Council meeting is Monday, September 16, (ZOOM meeting anticipated). The agenda will focus on the expense side of the 2020 Budget draft. The Council members as liasons to the Ministry teams, are asked to update any team budget items. Our Council meetings for the rest of 2019 should follow the 2nd Monday of the month schedule.

G. Vicar Carrie Petersen led us in the Lord's Prayer to close and the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susie Rust
Secretary

NOTES: Congregational January 2019 Meeting: Susie Rust confirmed as Secretary (replace Linda B.) Congregational Meeting 2018: Jack Zimmer. President 2 yr. term, Jim Voelz(Treasurer), Linda Baumgartner(Secretary), Kirk Helberg, George Timmons, Heidi Beckham (Financial Secretary); elected for 3 yr. terms: Susie Rust, Annie Lindemann, Richard Schaper, Kevin Solberg, Larry Klotz (VP). Congreg.Mtg 2017: Jim Voelz (Trea), Linda Baumgartner (Sec.), Kirk Helberg, George Timmins, Jack Zimmer (3Yr. terms), Dennis McConnell President (term expires in 2017). 2016 Congreg. Mtg: Susan Blough (Sec.) Elected 2015 - Heidi Beckham, Matt Hannes (2nd term), Chuck Will, Lawrence Zuelke, Elected 2014 - Linda Baumgartner, Alicia Macha (resigned position January, 2015), Jim Voelz. (2nd term), John Nye (2nd term), Julie Weeks. (2nd term)