

Tree of Life Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2016

The monthly Congregational Council Meeting of Tree of Life was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Dennis McConnell after a quorum was established. Council members present were: Dennis McConnell, President; Vickie Funderburk, Secretary; Larry Anderson, Treasurer; Linda Baumgartner; Jim Voelz; Chuck Will; Lawrence Zuehlke; Linda Bliese; Heidi Beckham; Julie Weeks; Pastor Chris Lake; Ryan Dockery (by skype) and guests: Bunny Stoutes, Ida Craig and Susan Blough. Absent: John Nye & Matt Hannes.

1. The meeting began with opening prayer led by Pastor Chris Lake.
2. A motion was made by Jim Voelz to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Linda Bliese and the motion carried.
3. A motion was made by Larry Anderson to accept the December 9th minutes. The motion was seconded by Lawrence Zuehlke and the motion carried.
4. Old Business
 - a. Ideal Impact energy saving - deferred until January 30th meeting.
 - b. Update for Shower and a/c renovations - deferred until January 30th meeting.
 - c. Review of preliminary 2016 budget – Council spent time discussing the income and answering questions of where the income for other is projected to come from. Dennis McConnell stated he wanted to make sure it was clear to the congregation that this “other” column includes money received from youth fundraisers (Trading Post, Garage Sale, Sweetheart Dinner, etc.). We also spent time looking at each line item in the budget to see where we could lower it. It was also decided that staff would not receive raises for 2016. We were able to reduce the budget by around \$18,700. Dennis also wanted to make sure we let the congregation know about no raises for staff and some of the other reductions.

During the above discussion a motion was made by Larry Anderson to hire Bob Peterson at a salary of \$15,000 per year. The motion was seconded by Heidi Beckham and the motion carried.
5. New Business
 - a. The Council Planning Meeting is scheduled for January 30th from 9 a.m. to around 1 p.m. with lunch. It will be held at Linda Baumgartner’s home.

6. Financial Reports: Larry Anderson went over the report and answered questions. Heidi Beckham made a motion to accept the December Financial Reports. The motion was seconded by Lawrence Zuehlke and the motion carried.
8. Pastoral Report: Due to the late time no report was given.
9. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer being said in unison.

Dennis McConnell, President

Vickie Funderburk, Secretary

Approved