

**Tree of Life Lutheran Church**  
Council Meeting Minutes  
May 11, 2016

The monthly meeting of the Congregational Council was called to order at 7:30pm by President Dennis McConnell. Council members present were: Dennis McConnell, President; Susan Blough, Secretary; Jim Voelz; Heidi Beckham; Chuck Will; Lawrence Zuehlke; Pastor Chris Lake; Ryan Dockery; Jan Zuehlke, grant writer; guests Matt Hannes and Jim Johnson.

1. The Meeting began with an opening song "I feel like Traveling On".
2. A motion was made to adopt today's agenda by Pastor Chris and was seconded by Jim Voelz.
3. A motion was made by Chuck Will to approve the March 9, 2016 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Laurence Zuehlke and the motion carried.
4. Old Business
  - a. Pastor sabbatical leave grant proposal that was due on April 15 was developed by Jan Zuehlke, Linda Baumgartner and Pastor Chris. "Leading with HOPE" is the theme of the proposal with three parts. First, Reorganization, meaning that the church is moving from a Pastoral-based system to a Program-based system based on church size. With the help of ELCA LEAD, Tree of Life will begin to put teams in place and develop leaders for those teams. Second, Renewal for the Pastor. Third, Return and Rejoice, meaning Pastor Chris return and shares what sabbatical meant to him. Sabbatical is projected to start the Sunday after Easter in 2017.
  - b. Building Usage information was presented by Jim Johnson. First discussed was the Facility Planning Team's Emergency Priorities including A/C for the Fellowship Hall. Bids for replacement will be around \$28,000.00. The most detailed bid was from Luxury Air. A motion to have the work done by Luxury Air was made by Jim Voelz and seconded by Heidi Beckham. The electrical work needed will be performed by the same electrician used for the bathroom/shower project. Second item discussed was the Team's future planning which include developing a facility maintenance plan and a prioritized new construction/renovation plan to be developed by Laurence Zuehlke, Chuck Will and Matt Hannes. New construction/renovation includes Fellowship Hall lighting, Youth Building, additional Staff Office space and a Community Center.
  - c. Synod Assembly on May 19-22 will be attended by Linda Baumgartner and Lisa Helberg.
  - d. Emily Work will be the only 2016 summer intern at TOL.
5. New Business

- e. Stewardship Team plans were discussed by Heidi Beckham. A timeline will be planned with Bunny Stoutes. Jack Zimmer will proceed with the plan and assign dates. The Stewardship Drive will begin the Sunday after Labor Day (September 11, 2016) with a catered, donated meal. Four Temple Talks will be given on consecutive Sundays following this.
  - f. Financial information was sent out to council members by email.
  - g. New members this month include: Rachel Zuazua and daughters, Kaylee and Adeline; Kenny and Jeannette Grigsby and children, Jeannie and Ian, and Mother-in-law, Ooma. A motion to ratify the new church members was made by Pastor Chris and was seconded by Heidi Beckham.
6. Short discussion of financials; nothing to record in minutes.
7. Pastoral Report was given by Pastor Chris Lake. He worked with a group of Methodists helping to muck out houses of flooded families.
8. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02pm with a closing prayer.

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Dennis McConnell, President

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Susan Blough, Secretary

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Date

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Date