

Desert Cross Lutheran Church Council Minutes
January 16, 2017

Present: Don Pelley, Jim Matthews, Paul Fagerman, Jennifer Hunsaker, Dale Martin, Stanley Fernandes, Brian Riensche, and Dan Apel

Absent: Jennifer Hefner

Staff Present: Pastor Dan Megorden, Pastor Matt Dobyms, and Doug Bjotvedt

Devotions: Dan opened with devotions.

Agenda / Minutes Approval: Jim moved and Dan seconded the acceptance of the amended January Agenda, and Jim moved and Dale seconded that the December Minutes be accepted. Council approved both motions unanimously.

Old Business:

1. Pledge Card Update- 150 total pledge cards were received, the majority of pledges go toward both funds (92), 1 pledge for property fund only.

Reports:

1. President's Report- Was not able to attend the retreat but heard it was fabulous. Really enjoyed Bishop Hanson's sermons yesterday and his points on the aging church and lack of diversity within the ELCA.
2. Pastor Matt- Discussed the six week spring stewardship focus. Will record reflections of the pastors and put them on a youtube channel. There will be a weekly email link to the videos. What does it mean to engage the "nones?" Confirmation students start up again this week. Want them to participate in the mid-week Lenten services. Campfirmation has picked up an additional two congregations.
3. Pastor Dan- Reviewed his submission for the February newsletter. Will need a focus group to gauge interest. Jim brought up that a group has been looking into several projects to refresh the Tempe campus with an estimated cost of \$400,000. Will move forward with the next logical steps.
4. CCMM- There were no questions or concerns.
5. Financial Report- We were close to meeting our budget, however, expenses were higher than giving in 2016. We had to use \$19,000 from our reserves. Jim moved and Stan seconded that we accept the financial report as presented. Council unanimously approved.
7. Program Reports- Thank you to the staff for your ongoing efforts in ministry. The council appreciates the monthly updates.

New Business:

1. Year End Journal Entries- Finance Committee met last week. Lost \$19,000 last year. Starting the year with \$18,000 less than we started with in 2016. Will likely have a cash flow problem in the third quarter. Jim moved and Brian seconded

that the Finance Committee recommendation on journal entries be approved. Council unanimously approved.

2. Annual Meeting February 26, 2017- Will be at 4 p.m. Putting together agenda items: updates on Gilbert interdependence, three-year initiative, budget, nominating committee for Council.
3. 2017 Budget Considerations- Will be watching 2017 as it unfolds. Look at it at the end of the first quarter, if there are problems we will have to come up with solutions.
4. Report from the Human Resources Committee- The Executive Committee reviewed the status of Pastor Dan's 3/4 time and recommended that we continue with this process. Seems to be going smoothly with good maintenance of pastoral coverage.

Prayer Concerns: Prayers for college students as they return to school, safe travels for LCM students going to Sedona, continued prayers for Jenn Hefner and Ross Reck as they recover. Prayers for the new President and new administration.

Singing at Westchester- January 20th
Grace Pancakes- January 22nd
Women's Tea- January 28th
Blood Drive- January 29th
Legacy Planning- January 29th
Next Council Meeting- February 20th

The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Hunsaker, Council Secretary