

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church: Family Meeting Minutes

January 31, 2021

Our Purpose Statement: Sharing God's love, growing in faith, and creating community.

Our Guiding Biblical Principles:

1. Worship of the triune God is central to our life together.
 2. We are grounded in Scripture & prayer & we encourage each other to question, listen, & learn.
 3. We believe everyone is loved & worthy of love; all people are welcome in God's kingdom.
 4. We respond to the needs of our neighbors near and far, following Christ's example.
 5. We use our time, talents, and finances for the glory of God.
 6. We promote love and justice for all of God's creation.
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Call to Order

Natalie Cain called the meeting to order.

Minutes from Decmeber Family Meeting

Minutes from the December 6th, 2020 Family Meeting were approved as presented.

Budget Report

Dan Hanner presented the budget report.

- Details are included in the 2020 Annual Report
- The church received a PPP loan of \$52,000 in June. Dan has applied to have the loan forgiven.
- The church is ended the year with a surplus of about \$5000 despite a slight drop in giving, mainly due to the PPP loan and a decrease in spending in areas related to use of the church buildings.
- Endowment Fund has accrued some n interest which will be distributed at a later time
- Peace For The Future has concluded. There is a significant amount of cash in the church accounts due to upcoming payments for the solar panels.

2021 Budget

Dan Hanner presented the 2021 budget.

- Questions from the congregation:
- Q: Is the tmobile lease slated to end on any specific date?
 - Answer: It is not. T-Mobile does call periodically to ask to renegotiate
- Q: Does lawn care have a budget line? For equipment, etc.
 - Answer: Lawn care is included in Property and Grounds and Snow Removal line items
- Q: Staff benefits include contributions to retirement as well. correct?
 - Answer: There is some contribution to retirement, the bulk of the benefits expenses cover health care
- Q: Nursery Attendant amount didn't change with our not being in church?
 - Answer: Council decided in March 2020 to continue paying Nursery staff. Rena has been helping lead Sunday School and other Children, Youth, and Family activities
- Q: Do you plan to apply for a second PPP loan?
 - Answer: Not at this time based on current giving
- Q: what is the assumption as to when we will be back in the building ? that you used to build the budget?
 - Answer: We assumed a return to use of the building mid-year
- Q: I have a question about the minutes from last month. Have the members of the new Technology Ministry defined its purpose yet? If so, can we hear it? {this can be discussed at the end of the congregation meeting.}
 - Answer: The Technology Ministry is still discerning on the statement of purpose. Update: a statement was submitted to Council in March
- Q: Back to property: does that increase on line 5814 allow for any of the work on the Lauxman house that the property committee catalogued as necessary?
- Answer: Council increased Property Maintenance to \$18,000. Big change is online infrastructure: j Zoom, Boxcast and website refresh. The increase allows the Property committee to have discretion over use of the funds
- Q: I don't understand the Living Lutheran situation.

- Answer: Council did not see the need to continue the subscription. This subject will be brought up at the next Deacon's meeting.
- Q: Back to janitorial -- could you talk more about cutting back to once a week? Is pest control on that budget line?
 - Answer: Council has not made a final decision on janitorial services. Pest control is under general property expenses
- Q: bottom line seems to be 15% increase in budget. but a bunch of that is covered by the grant. so how much of an increase are we assuming in congregational giving (in % or \$)?
 - Answer: The budget assumes about a 10% increase in giving
- Q: Where do Racial Justice expenses belong—no accounting number in spreadsheet. Also, will \$1500 be sufficient support if the church plans to address this important issue more aggressively?
 - Answer: We are adding a VANCO line item and a separate Racial Justice Team fund
- Q: Were the actual congregational donations last year \$453,314 less the \$66,662 PPP loan?
 - Answer: Actual donations were ~\$370,000
- Approved 2021 Budget

- Suggestion from Sue Clark: If anything, I suggest that we to begin to support advocacy organizations such as Bread for the World, VOICE, and the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy. Approved 2021 Budget
 - Outreach and Advocacy Ministry sent out a survey to the congregation to find out how we think the people of Peace are gifted and able to serve

Nominating Committee Election

The three candidates for the Nominating Committee are Natalie Cain, Ray Marquardt, and Norm Philion. All three were elected.

Peace For The Future Celebration

- PFTF officially ended in December
- We raised \$833,000 from over 90 individuals/families—more than twice the church's annual budget
- We still mourn the loss of John Clark, who led the PFTF team
- Many thanks to Cathy Kroohs, Anna and Don Hartmeyer, Sue Clark and the Implementation Team and all who participated

Closing Prayer

Natalie Cain gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.