

**Regular Meeting of the Voters Assembly
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, York, Nebraska
November 18, 2019, 7:00 p.m.**

Roll was taken by sign in.

The meeting was called to order by Richard Kant and opened with prayer by Pastor Mike.

The minutes of the September 16, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Gerold Leggott to approve the minutes as printed was seconded by Dan Stork and carried.

New Voters: Jane Bunnett requested to become a voting member. Bill Bolte seconded the request and it was approved. Jane will sign the constitution at the January meeting.

Treasurer (Schardt): Copies of current balance sheet and profit/loss statement were provided. Noted were approximately \$85,000 in outstanding checks because dollars are not advanced on the operating loan until needed. At the present time the note payable balance is \$190,000. Budget break-even will not reduce the balance payable on the operating note. Also provided were an accounting of the Troester bequest spending/balance and reports broken down by month. Motion to approve the Treasurer's report by Dave Sjuts was seconded by Gaylen Thomsen and carried.

Council Report (Kant): Additional requests for Endowment funds have been received and approved by the Council to bring before the Voters.

Motion by Richard Kant on behalf of the Council to approve the Stewardship Board's request to send \$7,600 to Food for the Poor to build two Homes for Haiti at a cost of \$3,800 each was seconded by Nate Beck and carried.

Motion by Richard Kant on behalf of the Council to approve the Elders' request for \$5,000 to start a Camp Luther scholarship fund was seconded by Charlie Moore, discussed, and carried.

Motion by Richard Kant on behalf of the Council to approve the Evangelism Board's request for \$3,000 to purchase outreach curriculum materials, and gifts for newlyweds and new members was seconded by Bill Bolte and carried.

Motion by Richard Kant on behalf of the Council to approve the Elders' request for \$2,000 for the York Ministerial Alliance and \$3,000 for the Emmanuel Hope Fund was seconded by Dave Sjuts and carried.

Motion by Richard Kant on behalf of the Council to approve the Elders' request for \$1,000 toward the Church Worker Debt Retirement and \$2,000 to the Nebraska Association of Christians for Concordia was seconded by Garold Leggott and carried.

Election Ballot A: Gaylen Thomsen and Dan Stork will help with distribution and counting ballots. For the office of President, current Vice President Clarence Hoffman will step up into office. Chairman Kant requested additional nominations from the floor for the offices of Vice President, Elder, Trustee, School Board Member, Youth Board Member, Youth Board Member At-Large, Compensation Board Member. There were none. Motion by Dave Sjuts that nominations cease was seconded by Rob Schardt and carried. Ballot A forms were distributed.

Elders Report (Moore): The Board of Elders recommend the following membership changes since the September voters meeting: transfers in of Bryon and Ashley Wellman from St. John's Lutheran-Waco, Darlene Merz from St. Paul's Lutheran-Falls City, Keith and Janeen Berg from Christ Lutheran-Lincoln, and Chad and Megan Hammer and family from Faith Lutheran-York; transfers out of Christie Dennis to Peace Lutheran-Grand Island and Ashton Gerken to Christ Lutheran-Lincoln; release from membership Laura Ellison to Southwood Lutheran ELCA-Lincoln. In addition to the Endowment requests of \$1,000 for church worker debt retirement and \$2,000 for NACC, the Elders would also like to request \$2,000 for the York Ministerial Alliance, \$3,000 for the Emmanuel Hope Assistance fund, account #450, and \$5,000 to start a scholarship fund for children to attend Camp Luther. Pastor Mike is working from home during the week so he is able to take Patty to appointments in Omaha. Benjamin Woodburn is now serving as organist one Sunday each month. Electronic Contracting has repaired some of the video system issues and is working on the balcony screen, scheduling a time to make that repair. The Elders reviewed the letter sent by the School Board to parents of students

regarding minimum church attendance. They also adopted the same sick leave policy for the full-time church secretary as the School Board has for the school secretary. The Board reviewed the 2020 budget following the Compensation Committee's recommendations and made changes where appropriate. The Elders continue to work through the book "Autopsy of a Deceased Church." Motion by Charlie Moore to approve the 2020 Elders budget was seconded by Rob Schardt and carried.

School Board Report (Wellmann): There are two upcoming staff changes. The positions held by Mrs. Trampe, music teacher and Maren Brouillette, pre-school aide will need to be filled. New requirements will be set for the position of pre-school aide. First aid supplies were provided through the "stop the bleed" training program in conjunction with YGH. Emergency buckets have been placed in many locations throughout Emmanuel and Faith buildings. The School Board tried to offset budget increases with decreases, ending with a \$10,506 increase in the coming year. A \$25,000 is being pursued that would help with increases. Motion by Brad Wellmann to approve the School Board budget for 2020 was seconded by Gaylen Thomsen and carried.

Results of Ballot A: The following officers and board assignments were elected for 2020: Vice President – Dave Sjuts; Elders – Matt Wagner, Charlie Moore, Larry Norquest, Byron Schlueter; Trustees – Nate Steever, Stan Gerken; School Board – Ken Liermann, Nathan Beck; Board of Youth – Angie Berthold; Board of Youth Member At-Large – Loretta Bellows, Linden Kaliff; Compensation Board – Steve Spady, Suzie Ellis.

Election Ballot B: Chairman Kant requested additional nominations from the floor for the offices of Secretary, Financial Secretary, Assistant Financial Secretary, Evangelism Board Member. Penny Jacobsen nominated Aaron Berthold for the office of Evangelism Board Member with Steph Howe seconding. Chairman Kant requested additional nominations from the floor for the offices of Stewardship Board Member, Christian Nurture Board Member, Christian Nurture Board Member At Large, Vice President, Elder, Trustee, School Board Member, Youth Board Member, Youth Board Member At-Large, Compensation Board Member. There were no other nominations. Motion by Rob Schardt that nominations cease was seconded by Dave Sjuts and carried. Ballot B forms were distributed. Motion by Dave Sjuts that Ballot B be accepted as printed with the following changes: Aaron Berthold's name will be added to Evangelism Board ballot and Byron Schlueter's name will be withdrawn from the Stewardship Board ballot as he was elected to the Board of Elders. A voice vote approved the motion and the following officers and board members were elected for 2020: Secretary – Kathy Marks; Financial Secretary – Larry and Laura Jacobsen; Assistant Financial Secretary – Dennis and Jayna Nienhueser; Evangelism Board Member – Aaron Berthold; Stewardship Board Member – Jim Robertson; Board of Christian Nurture Member – Chris Fenster. Additional board positions will be addressed by appointment.

Trustees Report (Mason): There was a defect with one of the school heater units that is still under warranty. It should be repaired in approximately two weeks. There have been some concerns with the church heating/cooling system. The Trustees are aware and are working on the issue. Solutions for rust in the plumbing continue to be researched. The computer server is being replaced with Troester bequest with approval by the Council. The Council has also approved repair of the west sidewalk and parking. Motion by Kolby Mason to approve the 2020 Trustees budget was seconded by Leroy Ott and carried.

Stewardship Report (Beck): The website domain name expired in August and has been renewed at a cost of \$10 per year for ten years. Email contacts have been changed and the new website address is emmanuelyorkne.com. The proposed Stewardship budget is the same as last year. Motion by Nate Beck to approve the 2020 Stewardship budget was seconded by Kolby Mason and carried.

Board of Youth Report (Kaiser): As there is no national youth gathering in 2020 the Board of Youth budget is reduced with leftover student account fundraising dollars able to be used for scholarship and activities. Motion by Pastor Kaiser to approve the 2020 Youth budget as printed was seconded by Nate Beck and carried.

Christian Nurture Report (Staehr): There is new curriculum with Wednesday evening classes being reinforced in Sunday School classes. The 2020 budget has been reduced \$1250. Motion by Deb Staehr to accept the Christian Nurture budget for 2020 was seconded by Gaylen Thomsen and carried.

Evangelism Report (Bolte): Trunk or Treat had a steady stream of people from before 6:00 to 7:45. Thank you to all who donated. Kevin and Heidi Cheng gave an excellent concert and the board hopes to have them back in the spring. On December 7 in conjunction with the Christmas Fair will be a gingerbread house building event. The board is going to

apply for a LCEF grant after the holidays. Motion by Connie Bolte to approve the 2020 Evangelism budget was seconded by Larry Jacobsen and carried.

Approval of 2020 Budget: Motion by Charlie Moore to approve the entire 2020 budget as printed was seconded by Dave Sjuts and carried.

Pastors Report (Kaiser): Materials and participation have been approved for the “Everyone His Witness” program. More to come.

Pastors Report (Neidow): All boards were commended for efforts to reduce their budgeted amounts. On December 1 at 1:30 there will be an open forum to discuss support of our mission in ministry.

Old Business: Voters were made aware that the Trustees had asked and received approval from the Council to use \$6,000 and \$35,000 respectively for a computer server and the west sidewalk/parking project. Motion by Richard Kant on behalf of the Council to approve these expenditures was seconded by Gaylen Thomsen and carried.

New Business: Comments about the facility use agreement were addressed. The Trustees have spent many hours updating the document. The only major change was addition of the \$30 per event cleaning fee, with that amount comparing at less than half of other church’s janitorial fees. The Trustees reiterated the policy that items belonging to the church are not to leave the building.

The meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer by Pastor Ben.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzie Ellis, Secretary