

Emmanuel Lutheran Church – York, Nebraska

Voters' Assembly Meeting

November 21, 2016

Roll was taken by sign in.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Arnie Otten, and opened with prayer by Pastor Mike.

New voting member Ann Wagner signed the constitution. Voter candidates who still need to sign the constitution are Curtis Nienhueser, Amanda Bangert, Deb Robertson and Howard Friesen.

The minutes of the September 19, 2016 meeting contained a mistaken correction of the date of the last regular voters' meeting. That date of April 18, 2016 was correct. With that correction, Dave Sjuts made a motion to approve the minutes. Nancy Mason seconded and the motion carried.

Ballots for election of officers were passed out.

Ballot A:

Current Vice President Dave Sjuts steps up to the office of president.

On the ballot for the office of Vice President is Larry Norquest. There being no further nominations from the floor, Dave Sjuts moved that nominations for the office of Vice President cease. Bill Bolte seconded and the motion carried.

On the ballot for the office of Treasurer is Rob Schardt. There being no further nominations from the floor, Richard Kant moved that nominations for the office of Treasurer cease. Dave Sjuts seconded and the motion carried.

On the ballot for the office of Elder, 3 year term, are Charlie Moore, Matt Wagner, Fred Stuertz, Bryan Buss and Larry Jacobsen. There being no further nominations from the floor, Dave Sjuts moved that nominations for the office of Elder cease. Gaylen Thomsen seconded and the motion carried.

On the ballot for the office of School Board member, 3 year term, are Ken Liermann, Penny Jacobsen, Aaron Berthold and Charles Hoffman. There being no further nominations from the floor, Gene Staehr moved that nominations for the office of School Board member cease. Garold Leggott seconded and the motion carried.

On the ballot for the office of Stewardship Board member, 3 year term, are Richard Kant, Jim Robertson and Nathan Beck. There being no further nominations from the floor, Rick Steever moved that nominations for the office of Stewardship Board member cease. Ken Liermann seconded and the motion carried.

On the ballot for the office of Board of Youth, voting member, 3 year term, is Diane Buss. There being no further nominations from the floor, Garold Leggott moved that nominations for the office of Board of Youth, voting member, cease. Gaylen Thomsen seconded and the motion carried.

On the ballot for the office of Board of Youth, non-voting member, are Carol Biel, Penny Harms and Loretta Bellows. There being no further nominations from the floor, Dave Sjuts moved that nominations for the office of Board of Youth, non-voting member, cease. Gaylen Thomsen seconded and the motion carried.

On the ballot for the office of Compensation Board member, 3 year term, are Richard Kant, John Seim and Steve Spady. There being no further nominations from the floor, Larry Jacobsen moved that nominations for the office of Compensation Board member cease. Rob Schardt seconded and the motion carried.

Members present marked their Ballot A and ballots were collected.

Elders: The Elders have recommended and the Church Council approved the following membership changes since September: Adult confirmations – Brooke Lee Buller, David Wayne Dye, Miranda Lynn Dye, Reva Ann Kaiser, Johnny Boy Taylor, Dillon Michael Taylor, Kelly Melton. Release of Membership – Matthew Junge to join Sheridan Lutheran, Lincoln, NE.

The Elders have followed the Compensation Committee's recommendation of a 2% increase for salaried workers and a 2.5% increase for hourly workers. A change in the Concordia Plan budgeted amount is a result of the new insurance plan. Charlie Moore made a motion to approve the proposed Elders budget as printed. Gaylen Thomsen seconded. After discussion confirmed that \$100/month HSA contribution was built in to the budgeted amount, a vote was taken and the motion carried.

Treasurer: Rob Schardt reported that to date spending has exceeded income by \$161,088.38. The line of credit has been used and short-term borrowing should be paid back by year end. Charlie Moore moved and Bill Bolte seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

School Board: Ryan Koch reported that the School Board would like to hire a full-time 8th grade teacher to allow Mr. Bangert to devote full time to his duties as principal. The School Board followed the Compensation Committee's recommendation of a 2% increase for salaried workers and a 2.5% increase for non-salaried workers except for those having children who are students and receive free tuition. Their increase will be 2%. Ryan moved to accept the 2017 School Board budget as printed. Garold Leggott seconded and the motion carried.

After counting the ballots, the results of Ballot A are as follows: President – Dave Sjuts; Vice President – Larry Norquest; Treasurer- Rob Schardt; Elders – Charlie Moore, Matt Wagner, Fred Stuertz and Bryan Buss; School Board – Penny Jacobsen and Aaron Berthold; Stewardship Board – Jim Robertson and Nathan Beck; Board of Youth Voting Member – Diane Buss; Board of Youth Non-Voting Members - Carol Biel and Loretta Bellows; Compensation Board – John Seim and Steve Spady.

Ballot B:

Current Secretary Suzie Ellis fulfills the second year of a two-year term.

Current Assistant Financial Secretary Chris Fenster steps up to the office of Financial Secretary.

There are no names on the ballot for the office of Assistant Financial Secretary. Someone will be appointed to fill that office.

On the ballot for the office of Evangelism Board member, 3 year term, are Carston Staehr, Tammy Wagner and Matt Staehr. There being no further nominations from the floor, Dave Sjuts moved that nominations for the office of Evangelism Board member cease. Charlie Moore seconded and the motion carried.

On the ballot for the office of Trustee, 3 year term, are Stan Gerken and Rick Steever. There being no further nominations from the floor, Gene Staehr moved that nominations for the office of Trustee cease. Jerry Jackman seconded and the motion carried.

On the ballot for Board of Christian Nurture, voting member, 3 year term, is Deb Staehr. Ken Liermann was nominated by Justin Bangert. There being no further nominations from the floor, Charlie Moore moved that nominations for the office of Board of Christian Nurture, voting member, cease. Richard Kant seconded and the motion carried.

On the ballot for the Board of Christian Nurture, non-voting member, 3 year term is Angie Berthold. Penny Harms was nominated by Bill Bolte. There being no further nominations from the floor, Dave Sjuts moved that

nominations for the office of Board of Christian Nurture, non-voting member, cease. Kolby Mason seconded and the motion carried.

Members present marked their Ballot B and ballots were collected.

Trustees: Kolby Mason reported that donations were received to remodel the church kitchen. The Trustees are working with the church ladies on requests. Kolby moved to accept the 2017 proposed Trustees budget as printed. Rick Steever seconded and the motion carried.

Stewardship: Rich Hankel reviewed budget amounts and moved to approve the Stewardship Board's proposed budget as printed. Kolby Mason seconded and the motion carried.

After counting the ballots, the Results of Ballot B are as follows: Secretary – Suzie Ellis; Financial Secretary – Chris Fenster; Evangelism Board – Carston Staehr and Tammy Wagner; Trustees – Stan Gerken and Rick Steever; Board of Christian Nurture voting members – Deb Staehr and Ken Liermann; Board of Christian Nurture non-voting members – Angie Berthold and Penny Harms.

Board of Youth: Diane Buss reported that ten students, chaperones and Pastor Ben attended the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Taco Tuesday has attendance of 10-20 kids each week. ELY is meeting every Wednesday at Wagner's and YFJ is meeting in the gym. ELY is hosting all of the Advent service meals, and will be calling for donations of desserts. Poinsettias for sale arrived today and Little Caesars pizzas will be for sale soon. Diane moved to approve the Board of Youth proposed budget as printed. Nancy Mason seconded and the motion carried.

Board of Christian Nurture: Pastor Mike reviewed the proposed budget for the Board of Christian Nurture and moved to accept it as printed. Gene Staehr seconded and the motion carried.

Evangelism Board: Pastor Ben explained that there is no change in the Evangelism Board's budget from the current year. Kolby Mason moved to approve the Evangelism budget as printed. Charlie Moore seconded and the motion carried.

Endowment Fund: Garold Leggott reported that as of November 15, 2016, Endowment Fund certificates of deposit total \$190,054.42. Money market accounts of \$53,253.56 and 4,354.14, trust fund balance of \$299,867.00 and LCMS Foundation deposits of \$303,277.53 combine with the CDs to bring the Endowment Fund to \$850,806.65. Because the total assets exceed \$500,000.00, we are allowed to distribute up to 15% of the principal as well as the interest dollars. The Endowment Fund Committee expects that requests for special projects be presented to the church council for approval and in turn presented to the voters for final determination.

After discussion of salary percentage increases and the Faith assistance formula, Dave Sjuts moved that the 2017 proposed overall budget of \$1,392,151 be unanimously approved. Richard Kant seconded and the motion carried.

Principal's Report: Current enrollment stands at 162 students with two more set to enroll after Thanksgiving. Kindergarten and second grade are capped and those two grades will not accept any students from outside Emmanuel-Faith congregations this school year.

Upcoming events are Grades 6-8 Choir Concert December 8 at 7:00 p.m.; School Christmas Program at 7:00 p.m. on December 20 with dress rehearsal at 2:00 p.m.; Little Blessings Christmas Program is scheduled for December 10 at 5:00 p.m.

The silent/live auctions at the Believe in our Future event raised \$35,000 toward new turf for the playground. Ticket sales and other donations have not been totaled yet. Steph Howe and Jill Koch were applauded for their

work on the fund raising event since its inception. The current playground surface is past its lifespan. The proposed turf surface is rated high for safety with a ten-year warranty. The current landscaping and the existing surface under the webbing will stay in place.

Pastor Ben: A new adult instruction course will begin on January 12, 2017. Please encourage and invite folks to attend.

Pastor Mike: At the last voters' meeting, members were challenged to build a house through the Food for the Poor project. Funds of \$4,340 were raised and a check will be sent. That amount will build one house and help toward another.

Parish Nurse/LWML: Deb Dahlke reported on her experiences at the Parish Nurse Conference in Wisconsin. Abbey Press care notes are available in the church hallway. 2017 will be a busy year for LWML with national convention in New Mexico and the 75th Anniversary of the group. Roxie Stuertz will be the liaison with the Trustees on the kitchen remodeling project.

Outgoing President Arnie Otten thanked all the boards.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Ben.

Jean Rich made a motion to adjourn. Rob Schardt seconded and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzie Ellis, Secretary