



## AGLC Church Council Meeting Minutes December 9, 2019

**Present:** Kristin Bergstrom, Kelcey Drapp, Don Duval, Shirley Glazier, Bruce Holte, Mark Saunders, Tony Seris, Dianna Trang, Alison Viktorin, Rev. Nick Billardello

**Absent:** Tim Draney, Debbie Kelley, Tonya Tomlin

**Guest:** None

**Call to Order by Vice President, Alison Viktorin:** 7:03pm

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Nick

### **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting:**

- Motion to approve the minutes was made by Tony and seconded by Kelcey. The motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report given by Shirley**

- Contributions appear to be up slightly in December. Reminder: Mission Freedom Capital Campaign is separate from regular giving to cover day-to-day expenses. **ACTION: Council members will contact their Committee Chairs and request that they hold back expenses until 2020, if possible.**
- Motion to approve November Report was made by Bruce and seconded by Tony. The motion passed.

### **Committee Reports presented by Kristin**

- Suggestion: In January, start taking attendance at Sunday School for all age groups and participants in music groups. **ACTION: Nick will request that attendance be taken at Sunday School for youth and adults, as well as for musical activities.**
- Abundance Sunday and Cantata went well. The Cantata was wonderful. It was nice to see the church so full of energy and members from both services engaging in fellowship.
- Nick will be hosting adult Sunday School in January. Announcement will be in this week's Wednesday Connections.
- Motion to approve the November Committee Minutes was made by Bruce and seconded by Mark. The motion passed.

## Old Business:

### Mission Freedom Capital Campaign

- 76 pledges totaling \$653,310. (For comparison only, we had 63 pledges during the operating budget pledge drive last Spring.)
- Lynette will be sending confirmation letters this week to all members who pledged. Follow-ups with members who did not pledge is in the works.
- Nick recommends the following next steps: 1) Set \$75,000-\$100,000 threshold for Capital Fund 2) Additional available funds be used to start paying down principal. Further discussion and a plan will be formulated after Lynette submits a report on the timing of distributions.

### New Audit Committee Status – Tim

- Tim was not present. Tabled.

### Website Launch – Kelcey

- Kelcey is receiving great feedback. She was able to keep the Directory and Giving on the site. Kelcey and John Nelson will manage updates. Suggestion was made to create an intern or position for a “younger” member to assist or takeover updates since that age group has grown up with and tend to be more social media/technology savvy.

### Building Usage Review – Tonya

- Tonya was not present. Tabled. **ACTION: Tonya will make edits and present final Facility Policy at January Council Meeting.**

## New Business:

### Giving 10% Mandatory

- Currently, we give 10% of our giving to the ELCA. Our by-laws state that we must give 10% of giving to benevolence, not necessarily to the ELCA. We currently have members who have cut or eliminated their giving to AGLC because they do not want 10% of their giving to go to the ELCA. This is contributing to the decline in giving this fall. Nick shared that a majority of churches are not giving 10%, or even 5%, to the ELCA.
- Council agreed to cut giving to the ELCA from 10% to 5%. **ACTION: Bruce, Tony, Alison, and Tim will meet to create 2-3 different strategies/options on how and where we will give the remaining 5% (of the total 10%). This information will be presented at the January Congregational Meeting.** We will not have to change the constitution or by-laws to make any changes on how we distribute the full 10% of giving.
- Motion presented: Remove \$2000 from December benevolence check to ELCA due to funds paid to Briarwood and Damascus Road in December. Motion made by Mark and seconded by Bruce. The motion passed. Total amount paid to ELCA in December benevolence check will be approx. \$954.21 instead of \$2,954.21.
- The January benevolence check(s) will not be written until after January Congregational Meeting.

### **Review of Building Use**

- Tabled until January meeting. Nick will talk to Gary about Youth Building.

### **Removal of Some Chairs in Sanctuary – Don**

- We currently have 220 chairs in the Sanctuary. Suggestion was made to remove one chair from each row since both church services are still small. This will help eliminate empty chairs in the middle. ***ACTION: Nick will ask Bill Rose to remove one chair from each row starting with the December 29<sup>th</sup> service.***

**Closing Prayer:** Bruce

**Meeting adjourned:** 8:24pm

### **\*\*Reminders\*\***

- 1) Committee Minutes/Reports due Wed., January 8<sup>th</sup>.***
- 2) Next Council Meeting: Mon., January 13<sup>th</sup>.***