

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2018

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Don Idso. Appreciation was expressed to the Senvolds (Dave, Mary, and Andrew) for serving breakfast.

DEVOTIONS: Presented by Pastor Will.

MINUTES OF THE 2017 ANNUAL MEETING: President Don Idso read the minutes, and one correction was made in reference to the Amended ELCA Model Constitution. In CO.02, "Minister of the Word & Message" was corrected to read, "Minister of the Word and Service." No other corrections or additions were offered.

COMMUNICATIONS:

*MT Synod Treasurer, Sue Ost, sent a letter to Zion, indicating that the Synod House in Great Falls will be completed by March of 2018. ELCA Mission Builders (volunteers from across the United States) worked on the building in May through October. More work is being done and a construction loan will be taken out through the ELCA Investment Fund. Sue expressed appreciation for prayers, time, and contributions during the construction of the new Synod Office building.

*Thrivent members were encouraged to call or log on to the Thrivent Web site and to direct their Choice Dollars to an organization of their choice, particularly Zion Church.

Through the "Action Teams" program, each Thrivent member is eligible to complete an application and receive a \$250 grant for use in a fund-raiser or service project. Members were informed that they could ask Cami White, Maureen Lundman, or Don Idso if they had more questions about that.

*Joe Peterson, Athletic Director at DCC, sent ten free tickets for the Bucs Game on "Church Night", Thursday, February 1st. Tickets were made available upon request.

*Being a Chamber of Commerce member, Zion received a letter with a list of various activities and events people in Glendive can volunteer for. The list was made available.

*Notice was given that volunteers are needed in Eastern Montana for Court Appointed Special Advocates. Training will be provided for these volunteers who advocate for children who are victims of abuse or neglect.

REPORTS:

*President Don Idso commented on the President's Report and the responsibilities of the congregation. He also acknowledged the generosity of people who give to the Loaves and Fishes program. Betty Mawbey had left a large donation to the Loaves and Fishes program. A savings account has been set up with those funds, from which we have had two withdrawals to date. People were encouraged to keep on donating to the Loaves and Fishes. One hundred clients have been served through the program and \$14,347.81 has been distributed in 2017.

*Bill Miller reported that we had a rainstorm in 2017 while the old shingles were being removed from the roof, resulting in damage to two sections of the interior ceiling tiles. Insurance paid for the damage, and enough was paid to do the whole ceiling. We received the check and it is in the bank. Additionally, Schwartz Construction has indicated that tiles matching the original tiles are available and that the edges of the tiles can be sanded and modified so that each new tile will have the same gold framing that exists on the originals. This means that we will only have to replace the tiles in two sections, leaving funds to possibly use for replacing carpet in the sanctuary.

*Barb Gartner indicated that there are still meatballs for sale, left over from the lutefisk dinner.

RATIFICATION OF THE ZION ENVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CONSTITUTION: President Don reminded the congregation that this constitution was voted on and approved at a congregation meeting in December of 2017. A second vote is needed to ratify the constitution. The parts of the Constitution to be updated and shared were shared with the congregation--

1. The Congregation, not the Council, will elect officers of the congregation. (C5.03, C11.01d, C11.02)
2. To be an associate member, a person can keep membership in another "Christian" church and still maintain an attachment to our Zion Lutheran Congregation. (C8.02d)
3. Council members are elected to one term of three years. C12.02)
4. Remove the word "Senior" in reference to the pastor (C12.12, C13.08)
5. Gives the Council authority to enter into emergency contracts of up to \$100,000 (C12.05)

A motion (Susan Miller/Vern Deaton) to approve the constitutional amendments was passed unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO ZION BI-LAWS (TABLED AT 2017 ANNUAL MEETING. President Don indicated that we had to remove this issue from the table and deal with it. **A motion (Bill Miller/Marie Meland) to remove the issue from the table was passed.** In discussion, the congregation was urged to defeat the proposed by-laws amendment, which states that the Vice President of the Council would become the next President. **Since it is in direct conflict with the newly approved constitution, the motion to amend the by-laws was defeated.**

2018 BUDGET: President Don gave an overview of the proposed 2018 budget. He pointed out that a raise of 5% for Pastor Will and a raise of 3% for staff is included in the budget. The mileage line item was increased to include travel for two members to attend Synod Assembly and for mileage reimbursement to Cami White when she uses her personal vehicle for work-related travel. **A motion (Gail Ring/Vern Deaton) to approve the proposed budget was passed.**

ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Nominees for Council were Bill Miller (2nd term), Janna McCormick (2nd term), Danielle Wold (2nd term), Larry Heimbuch (1st term), Emma Gabbert (2nd year youth representative). Further nominations were asked for and none received. **All nominees were elected by a vote of acclamation. They will each, with the exception of Emma Gabbert, serve one term of three years.**

The nominee for President was Cathy Kirkpatrick. Further nominations were asked for and none received. **Cathy Kirkpatrick was elected to a one-year term as President of the Council and Congregation by vote of acclamation.**

Kevin Miller was the nominee for Vice-President of the Council. Further nominations were asked for and none received. **Kevin Miller was elected to a one-year term as Vice-President of the Council by vote of acclamation.**

Nominations from the floor for Secretary were Leah Juneau and Marie Meland. **A ballot vote was taken, and Marie Meland was elected to the position of Council Secretary for a term on one year.**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by

Don Idso, outgoing president