

Congregational Meeting Agenda September 9, 2007

Tim Demorest called the meeting to order at 9:50 am. There were 61 members of the congregation present.

Pastor Chris Launer gave the blessing.

Tim asked the congregation to approve the minutes from the last Congregational Meeting. There was a motion and a second to do so. A unanimous vote follows

Tim put before the congregation that Alison was resigning her post as Treasurer effective 9/30. Do to the bylaws it was up to the current Council to assign a new Treasurer. Tim then asked the congregation if anyone was interested in the job. There was no response. Tim then offered Alison thanks for the wonderful job she did over the course of this year. He also pointed out how hard being church Treasurer is when there isn't enough money to go around.

Tim then asked the congregation to vote for the new Council Members. We have four members going off and four people willing to go on. It was suggested that we vote the ballot in as is. This was seconded and passed. The new Council Members are: Bob Crance, Rick Drake, Craig Bonne and Ramona Miller. Tim asked the outgoing council members to stand and thanked them for their service to the church.

Tim then moved on to the budget. He asked everyone to look at the budget and at the bottom line. At our current rate of giving, there will be a \$14,658.40 shortfall by next year. To be able to meet our budget there needs to be \$4,770 given each week. He also pointed out that the next Council will have to cut some programs if the giving doesn't go up. Tim then talked to congregation about redefining choir responsibilities. He pointed out that the lack of participation by the congregation is making it hard to justify paying a choir director. The current Council suggested a 90 day evaluation as to whether there is a continued need for a choir director.

Tim opened the floor for discussion regarding the budget. There were questions regarding the mortgage payment decrease. Alison explained that she worked with the mortgage company to get the mortgage extended thereby lowering our monthly payments by \$600 per month. There was a question regarding last year's actuals. How exactly were we paying our bills? Tim told them that we were spending our savings and money left over from the hailstorm last year. There was a statement made that we should look at the budget as a goal and trust the Council to lead us. It was also asked that we place the weekly giving in the bulletins along with the required giving necessary to meet our goals. There was some discussion regarding this. It was eventually put to a vote and passed. It is now required to have the actual weekly giving amount with the required giving amount plus a blurb about 10% going to benevolence. There was also a question regarding emailing the budget out early to everyone. It was pointed out that not everyone has e-mail and that this year we did not get the budget done until just before the meeting. There was a motion to pass the budget and it was seconded. The budget passed 48 to 6. It should be noted that the current Treasurer voted against the budget as it stands.

In an effort to end on a high note, it was mentioned that Ann Atchison is willing to fill in as the head of Altar Guild on a temporary basis. We should continue to look for a more permanent person for this position. Also, there was big thanks to Alison Stickel for all the hard work she put in this year. And thanks to Melissa LaGue and her crew for the excellent job they did with the concert. There was opinion voiced that they hoped she would arrange this again next year.