

Draft

Westwood Lutheran Church Congregational Annual Meeting February 9, 2020

Opening Prayer: Council President Chris Hentges opened the meeting at 9:50 A.M. by welcoming those present and Pastor Miriam Roberts-Samuels led an opening prayer.

Determination of Quorum: Council member Sara Moran reported that a quorum of voting members had been met (at least 100 voting members). The total number of voting members present was 119. President Chris Hentges then called the meeting to order.

Secretary's Report: Council member Sara Moran addressed the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Congregation, copies of which were provided in the Annual Report. She asked if there was a request to read the minutes aloud and if there were any corrections. As there were no requests or corrections, President Chris Hentges asked for a motion to approve the minutes as printed. A motion was made, seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- **Previous Year Financial Report:** Dave Hill, Chair of the Financial Management Advisory Group, started his comments by noting that the total contributions for 2019 reached \$2.3 Million and thanked the congregation for their generosity in supporting the missions of Westwood. He then referred to the Treasurer's Report as printed in the Annual Report on pages 8 and 9. He also noted that there was a Q&A and discussion of the report at the Town Hall meeting the previous Sunday. Dave then made a motion to approve the report as presented. Motion was seconded and passed.
- **2020 Proposed Budget:** Dave Hill presented the 2020 Budget as printed in the Annual Report. He highlighted key points in the budget and after reviewing the budget he made a motion to approve the budget as proposed. Seconded, motion passed.

"Good Courage Appeal": Pastor Jason Van Hunnik presented the ongoing development of this project with the Prayer of Good Courage as our creed. Prince of Peace Lutheran Church merged with another church and sold that property to Common Bond. We approached Common Bond with a letter of support to start a childcare center similar to WECC for approximately 60 children. They will be constructing the housing development on that site with completion expected in mid-2022. A Finance Team has been assembled to research the feasibility of helping to fund a childcare within the development with a 10-year lease and where those funds might come from. A final decision from Westwood to Common Bond will be needed by July 1, 2020. There will be Town Hall meetings and House Gatherings prior to the Council making the decision on whether to proceed or not.

Senior Pastor Comments: Pastor Tania Haber commented that in 2020 we will continue developing our conversations and focus on the "5 Big Rocks" which are Vocation, Race, Housing/Childcare, LGBTQIA and Interfaith Relationships. These have and will continue to shape the culture of Westwood. Pastor thanked the 75th Anniversary Team for a very warm and lovely event. She also thanked outgoing Council and staff members for their service. Pastor Tania attended a meeting with the 24 largest congregations in the Synod. She commented that Westwood has created a positive culture and that Westwood has an amazing staff to work with. Other churches in the Synod look to Westwood for ideas for their own congregations.

Nominations Report and Elections: Heidi Thompson, Nominations Team member, presented the slate of candidates for Church Council and the Nominations Team:

- **Officers and Council:** President-Elect(2-year term, filling out Sara Moran's) Laura Ramsborg
Secretary – LaDonna Reynolds (2-year term, filling out Wanda Nightengale's)
Treasurer – Dave Hill
- **Council Members-at-Large:** Dave Guenzel (3-year term)
Anna Martinez (3-year term)
- **Nominations Team:** (for 1st year of 2-year term) Shelby Strauss
Lanica Klein
Kurt Koubal
- **Re-Elected Nominations Team for 2nd Year:** Heidi Thompson
Hugh Mattson

Heidi Thompson moved that the slate of nominees as presented by the Nominations Team be accepted and elected to the positions as indicated and for the term stated. President Chris Hentges asked for any nominations from the floor, declared nominations closed and asked for a motion to approve. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Foundation Report: Foundation Member Beth Johnson gave a report on the work of the Foundation. There are 15 different funds under the Designated Funds category: (1) Outreach (2) Art and Music (3) Adult Education (4) Youth Development (5) Scholarship. Under the Endowment Fund are undesignated funds. The Annual Report was made available to the attendees.

New Business: President Chris Hentges asked if there was any new business, comments or other items for discussion. There was none.

President Chris Hentges thanked everyone for coming and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Scott, Acting Secretary