

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES – APPROVED

May 28, 2024

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Rexanne Spicer.

Members present: Pastors Peter Nycklemoe, Stephanie Friesen and Melissa Pohlman, Julie Anderson, Jeff Block, Allison Eger, Rachel Moeller, PJ Ritters, Karl Starr, Laurel Stewart, Heidi Tysk-Poppe

Member excused: Ann Oyen

Staff excused: Pat Hansen

Christ Care Prayers: Pastor Peter shared a short devotional and then invited all to share their joys, sorrows, concerns, and thanksgivings, which were lifted in prayer.

Adoption of the May Agenda: The Meeting Agenda was adopted.

Approval of Minutes from April Council Meeting: The Council Meeting minutes for April 23, 2024, were approved. Also received were the Pastors' Shared Report for May 2024.

Financial Reports: Treasurer Karl Starr summarized the monthly financial reports through his Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2024 – Analysis of Revenue & Expense, Balance Sheet Analysis, Designated Fund Summary. These financial reports were accepted by the Council.

Life Passages for April 2024:

1. **Baptisms:** no baptisms
2. **Weddings:**
 - a. **Ann Schneider and Benjamin Berg** were married at Central Lutheran on Saturday, April 20, 2024. Pastor Stephanie Friesen presided.
3. **Funerals/Burial Services:**
 - a. **Mildred "Millie" Charlotte Jung** (December 14, 1928 – March 3, 2024) Funeral was held at Central Lutheran on Saturday, April 6, 2024. Pastor Stephanie Friesen presided.
 - b. **Patrick "Pat" Robert Sepnieski** (April 10, 1955 – March 4, 2024) Funeral was held at Central Lutheran on Wednesday, April 10, 2024. Pastor Stephanie Friesen presided.
 - c. **Brian Alan McKinley** (June 26, 1944 – February 27, 2024) Funeral was held at Central Lutheran on Saturday, April 13, 2024. Pastor Judith Stone presided. Pastor Peter Nycklemoe preached.
 - d. **Lois Camille Wolff** (November 15, 1948 – March 3, 2024) Funeral was held at Central Lutheran on Saturday, April 14, 2024. Pastor Stephanie Friesen presided. Pastor Melissa Pohlman preached.
 - e. **Robert "Bob" Eugene Erdman** (March 14, 1934 – March 16, 2024) Memorial service was held at Central Lutheran on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. Pastor Stephanie Friesen presided. Pastor Brian Gutzmann preached.
 - f. **Sylvia Lucille Anderson** (September 4, 1923 – November 24, 2023) Funeral was held at Central Lutheran on Friday, April 19, 2024. Pastor Melissa Pohlman presided. Reverend James Donald preached.
 - g. **Patricia "Patti" Mae Brestrup** (July 23, 1930 – March 2, 2024) Funeral held at Central Lutheran on Sunday, April 21, 2024. Pastor Stephanie Friesen presided. Pastor Brian Gutzmann preached.

Action Items – the Council approved with a motion, second, discussion and vote:

1. The recommendation for the new members for the Fiscal and Property Committee: Kevin Lile, Judy Hadler, Ron Fiscus and Jeff Haines. Continuing to serve: Jerry Frick; Karl Starr, treasurer; Julie Anderson, Council liaison; Sara Masters, Dave Rodriguez and Pastor Peter, staff. Completing terms: Steve Studt, Lynn Erickson, Paul Troselius and Franklin Deitrich.
2. The recommendation for the new member for the Personnel Committee: Nancy Hanson. Continuing to serve: Susan Troselius and Barbara Anderson; Rexanne Spicer, council president and Jeff Block, council representative.

Information and Conversation:

1. City Easement issue
2. Choir Director Search Team
3. Casavant Organ Team
4. Sanctuary Renewal Team

One-on-One Conversation: values, cutting the issue and SMART goal work:

Pastor Stephanie presented the three value areas:

- Welcoming Community: church as 3rd space and the space to connect.
- A community (place) for the seasons of life: worship as the core, bringing the services together.
- Welcome – Acceptance – Hospitality – Inclusivity: All four as a place to begin, with each defined.
- Note the things we do well (Worship and Music) and the importance of leading with connection (Individuals – groups – outreach).

Pastor Melissa then shared the Check List for Cutting the Issue – Organizing principles:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| • Win concrete improvements | • Have a clear decision-maker |
| • Give people a sense of their own power | • Have a clear time frame |
| • Alter the relations of power | • Be non-divisive |
| • Be winnable | • Build leadership |
| • Be widely felt | • Set up the next issue |
| • Be deeply felt | • Advance your vision and values |
| • Be easy to understand | • Challenge structural inequities |
| • Seize the moment | |

Pastor Peter then reviewed SMART goals:

1. Specific (What do you want to accomplish? Who needs to be included? When do we want to do this? Why is this a goal?)
2. Measurable (How can you measure progress to know we have successfully met the goal?)
3. Achievable (Do we have the skills? Are we living from our strengths?)
4. Relevant (Why are we setting this goal now? Is it aligned with who we are?)
5. Time-bound (What is the deadline, and it is realistic?)

The Council formed three-person groups to work on developing SMART goals by the June meeting through conversations, emails, texts.

Closing Prayer and Adjourn: After closing with the Lord's Prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

The Council's next meeting is scheduled for June 25, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Hansen

Recording for Heidi Tysk-Poppe, Council Secretary

Central Lutheran Church
Treasurer's Report
April 30, 2024 Financials (4 months)

	Annual Budget	April 30 YTD	% of Ann Budget (33%)
Income	\$3,434,500	\$1,359,762	40%
Expense	\$3,470,505	\$1,185,841	34%
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$36,005)	\$173,921	-483%

Operating Fund – Key Revenue Items

Revenue Source	April Actual	April Budget	2024 Year-to-Date Actual	2024 Year-to-Date Budget	2023 Year-to-Date Actual	Year Over Year Change – Actual
Regular Offering	\$149,638	\$125,000	\$629,790	\$525,000	\$564,650	\$65,140
Foundation (undesignated)	\$102,000	\$102,000	\$408,000	\$408,000	\$432,000	(\$24,000)
Parking	\$72,155	\$35,000	\$171,801	\$140,000	\$162,524	\$9,277

Assets / Liabilities

Select Key Assets:	April 2024	December 2023	4 mo. Change
Operating Checking ⁱ	\$340,213	\$204,878	\$135,335
Operating Reserve ⁱⁱ	\$314,875	\$311,389	\$3,486
Designated Account Asset Support ⁱⁱⁱ	\$2,130,769	\$1,878,673	\$252,096
Select Key Liabilities:			
Designated accounts			
Repair fund (consumables)	\$135,065	\$99,130	\$35,935
Long-term capital projects	\$169,293	\$169,293	\$0
Foundation reserve	\$50,533	\$50,533	\$0
Temporary holding accounts ^{iv}	\$1,372,063	\$1,264,165	\$107,898
All other designated accounts	\$302,435	\$227,771	\$74,664
TOTAL Designated accounts	\$2,029,389	\$1,810,892	\$218,497
Mission Investment Fund Mortgages	\$6,219,394	\$6,112,714	\$106,680 ^v

ⁱ Operating checking and operating reserve together provide \$655,088 of cash available to support operations. This is a strong cash position and is a 27% increase compared to year-end 2023. (A target established several years ago is to maintain operating cash of at least \$250,000.)

ⁱⁱ Includes regular reserve savings and Alerus Wealth Access.

ⁱⁱⁱ Goal is to maintain assets supporting designated accounts that are at least equal to the total of all designated accounts. This goal is being met. (\$2,130,769 in designated fund assets vs. \$2,029,389 in designated accounts).

^{iv} Includes parking lot easement compensation (\$197K) and roof hail damage insurance settlement (\$1,067 million)

^v Increase in mortgage debt attributable to short-term loan to finance organ renovation design phase.