

## **BOARD OF ELDERS**

### **Crown of Life Lutheran Church**

#### Meeting Minutes (Final)

December 7, 2021

The meeting opened at 8:27 AM with a prayer by Pastor Phill.

All Elders were in attendance: Tom Johnson, Tom Mertins, Lowell Janssen, Ed Michel, Ron Mara, Al Stoudemire, Duane Rawson, Chris Beck, Dave Sawyer, Henry Munzinger and Paul Brown.

Newly elected Elders in attendance: Gerry Harpt, Jeff Holmes and Tim Krueger.

Pastor Gary was also present.

#### **Bible Study**

- Called to Believe, Teach and Confess: An Introduction to Doctrinal Theology, by Stephen Mueller; was postponed.

#### **Prior Meeting's Minutes**

- The minutes from the November 2, 2021 meeting were approved.

#### **Introduction of new Elders for 2022**

- Thanks, and praise was given for outgoing Elders Joel Block, Duane Rawson and Ed Michel. Their help and growth in membership contact is greatly appreciated.
- New Elders Gerry Harpt, Jeff Holmes and Tim Krueger were welcomed and given new Elder packets to help in their ministry.
- A short meeting with the new Elders was held to ensure they are familiar with alter duties associated with Communion distribution.

#### **Pastor's Report**

- Pastor thanked all the Elders for the hard work that they have undertaken over the last 2 years. With covid restrictions and the starting of Daily Devotional Thought communications they all took on new and laborious duties to help keep communication with all Crown of Life membership.
- Pastor also thanked the Elders for their involvement with troubled members and their need for different accommodations and transportation to and from church. This is way beyond any duty of an Elder, but your help has been a blessing to those in need. There are resources available to aid in finding accommodations for members in need, so just call the Church office for any referrals.
- Christmas cards are ready for mailing to the membership by each Elder. They will be available December 8<sup>th</sup> in the Church office.
- This coming weekend, December 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> will be the Christmas Musical Presentation. There will be a harp, horns and choirs to help bring in the Christmas season.
- Pastor discussed the 10:30 AM services on Sunday mornings. A final determination has yet to be made. It will depend on attendance and parking space availability. Elders are scheduled for the potential need for the second Sunday services. The church will hold 400 people.

- Pastor Ron will be retiring. Pastor will be taking Wednesday's Bible Study and Pastor Ray Mirly will be teaching Sunday's Bible Study.
- Membership is staying steady at around 685 members.
- Stewardship at Crown of Life has been a true BLESSING. By the end of the year, it is anticipated that the surplus (income over expenses) will approach \$100,000. Thanks to all who gave to the glory of God.
- A question was raised regarding the fact that in 2023, January 1<sup>st</sup> falls on a Sunday. It was decided that there will be services held on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.
- Church finances were discussed. With the amount of funds sitting in various accounts (Endowment, Reserves and Mission), can more funds be used for religious outreach? It was suggested that if any Elder felt it appropriate, they in fact could discuss with the Church Council the opportunities for more outreach.

### **Elder Zone Reports**

- All reports were succinct with pertinent issues discussed. Monthly reports were unavailable.

### **Council Report**

- Report was given at recent Voters Assembly.

### **Old Business**

- Women in Administration – Continued from last month was a discussion on allowing women to serve as President or Vice President of the Church Council. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed to table the issue until a new Associate Pastor is called.
- Elder schedules for 2022 need to be resent. Original format was not conducive to easy understanding. The Elder Secretary will forward updated listing.

### **New Business**

1. Update on Call Committee for Associate Pastor:
  - a. All submittals have been forwarded to District.
  - b. The next step in the process in preparing names for an Associate Pastor Calling by the Call Committee is a Zoom meeting to fill out additional paperwork. Due to the Holiday season and the other churches in position needing a new pastor, this process will most likely take some months.
2. A generous donor has purchased 10 tickets for Christmas Dinner. Elders are asked to review their Zone membership for consideration of receiving a free Christmas Dinner. Just let Pastor Phill or Pastor Gary know of your candidates.
3. Helping Hands is a program the Church offers to needy members. It has a \$5,000 annual budget to use throughout the year for needy church members. It can be used for things like medical bills, utility bills, food, etc. So, if you know of someone in dire need, you can assist them in getting help through the church office.
4. Monthly Food Drive – Ed Michel, who coordinated the effort, is going off as an Elder. We need a volunteer to take over the job of collecting and delivering the food to St. Mary's Food Bank. Ed did Volunteer to stay on for a time until a volunteer stepped up. Let Tom Mertins know if you are interested.

### **Comments for the Good of the Order**

Happy birthday to Chris on the 15th.

### **Next Meeting**

January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 8:30 AM. The closing prayer will be led by Paul Brown.

### **Closing Prayer Today**

- Dave Sawyer
- Closing prayer is determined by the duty Elder for the previous month.

The meeting closed at 9:47 AM

Respectfully submitted:

*Chris Beck*

Chris Beck, Elder Secretary