

Tree of Life Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, February 17, 2025, Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Kevin Solberg, Sandy McCarthy, Jim Lemaux, Deb Zimmer, Heidi Beckham, Jenny Jenkins, Ronnie Whitman, Russ Larson, Jeff Mabrey, Chris Lake. Staff: Jill Waldrop, Diana Frederick, John Burkwall

Absent: None

- A. The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM
- B. Kevin opened with prayer.
- C. Consent of agenda and minutes
 - 1. A motion was made to approve the agenda by Jim Lemaux, seconded by Deb Zimmer. Motion passed.
 - 2. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Ronnie Whitman, seconded by Sandy McCarthy. Motion passed.
- D. Financial report for January
 - 1. Operating funds shows the general checking to be \$15,430
 - 2. Dedicated funds balance \$82,243
 - i. The King's Embrace has now been split into two external accounts and one internal account. The following are the external accounts
 - 1. The King's Embrace directly
 - 2. The King's Embrace Teachers
 - ii. The King's Embrace internal account is for Pastor's Kenya trip needs
 - 3. Mortgage is now \$999,692 finally under a million
 - 4. We didn't borrow from Seeds for Growth
 - 5. Total income for January was \$45,669
 - 6. Total expenses were \$45,277, a surplus of \$392!
 - 7. 2025 Pledge Campaign will be watched more closely this year (\$61,085 total given so far)
 - i. 2 families have met their pledge
 - ii. 46 families are on track with their pledge
 - iii. 14 families have not given yet
 - 8. Motion was made by Jim Lemaux to approve the financial report, seconded by Ronnie Whitman. Motion passed.
- E. 2025 budget finalization - Jim said that he thought the presentation of the budget went over very well at the congregational meeting with having no questions asked (which is unusual)
- F. Congregational update by Pastor
 - 1. Left for Kenya without Wayne Rambarran due to kidney stones but Richard Obrosky and Pastor Cassandra Nagle went with him. They had goals of things to accomplish:
 - i. Increase water capacity to 10,000 liters, did not have time but increased the pressure.
 - ii. Increase generator power
 - iii. Install voltage regulator that, unfortunately, did not work properly.
 - 2. Performed wedding for Jakob and Erin Hancock on Saturday.

3. Spent time on Sunday with hurting families in the congregation including talking through with Diana Stigleman her new status of having no car.
4. Gearing up for Lent now.
5. Pastor Cassandra Nagle will be preaching for us April 27th.
6. Pastor Roth with Grace Lutheran will be retiring.

G. Old business

1. 2025 budget questions - none
2. Congregational meeting briefing - discussed earlier that it went well besides running overtime
3. King's Embrace update given earlier
4. Summer Day Camp
 - i. Russ has been meeting weekly with Jill & Diana
 - ii. Volunteers were solicited and received some qualified people (Mary Dinklage, Bogart Nomad, Peggy Heimann, and Kelly Klaevemann)
 - iii. Jenny Jenkins checked into codes and requirements
 - iv. Estimated cost to run it per month was figured to be \$15,000 (for 20 kids that would be breakeven)
 - v. Jeff Mabrey said that we should spruce up the fellowship hall so that it looks more inviting for people to rent out.
 - vi. Kevin thanked all those who worked on this, but the discussion led to the fact that we were not quite ready to do this.
5. Lake Livingston update – no new news

H. New business

1. New members – Deb reported none this past month
2. Adopt a Project – none

I. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 with The Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Zimmer, Secretary