

## Congregational Council Meeting Minutes

### Saint Matthew Lutheran Church

February 18, 2020

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:02 by Council Vice President Gail Dutcher.

**Attending:** Frank Ander (via phone), Karen Ball, Gail Dutcher, Phil Gomez, Ross Heil, Gary Klintworth, Pastor Tim Philips, Dave Rower, Gian Schauer, and Bill Stark.

**Absent:** Mark Hearn, Sherry Whitmarsh.

**Guest:** Brian Lechner (excused after his presentation).

Brian Lechner gave a presentation on the Saint Matthew Foundation. Highlights are:

- principal operating fund is comprised of specified giving to the Foundation in the form of cash, estates bequests and sales from the Columbarium. The funds are invested in Vanguard's Star Fund.
- The Foundation currently has a cash balance of approximately \$400,000.
- About 4 to 7% is available annually for distribution as determined by the proceeds from the Foundation's investments. Not all funds are required to be distributed each year.
- Scholarships are funded by an allocation of 1/2 of the amount of the recognized investment proceeds.

Gian Schauer/Dave Rower to approve the January 21, 2020 minutes to be approved as presented.

Vote: Yes – 10, No - 0

Bill Stark, Treasurer, presented the financial report for January 2020. He stated that worship attendance over the past five years has declined from a weekly average of 750 worshipping to 325 over the past five years.

January Revenue was \$85,880 vs. a budget of \$110,255. January expenses were \$93,683 vs. a budget of \$113,285. Actual net deficit of (\$7,773) vs. a budgeted deficit of (\$3,030). Revenue is typically down in January. Expenses are down because we budgeted for a senior pastor for the entire year but did not have that expense in January.

Bill noted that January revenue is usually about 1/3 of the previous December's giving.

**Family Meeting:** Pastor Tim discussed the agenda for the meeting, suggesting that it be about 15 minutes at the end of a 45-minute worship service.

**Staff Organization:** As part of Pastor Tim's report he presented a chart that highlighted the realignment of our Staff Configuration to bring it in line with our Mission.

It was noted that Small Groups should be included in the Chart.

Dave Rower/Gary Klintworth moved to authorize the Saint Mathew Foundation to grant its tuition request of \$1,000 to Amanda Hall to pursue her seminary studies from its operating funds. .

Vote: Yes – 10, No - 0

Gary Klintworth reported that he is working with Shelley Pattison on the Children's Ministry Coordinator.

Gail reported that the Call Committee had received an initial list of applicants from the Bishop and that they will be pursuing an evaluation of the applicants that have been received so far. More applications are anticipated.

Mission Beyond: Saint Matthew has been asked to host Trinity Cold Winter Nights on March 7th and 8th. Saint Matthew has also been asked to help with Warm Winter Nights by assisting the United Methodist Church of Walnut Creek by preparing and serving meals from March 25th through breakfast on March 29<sup>th</sup>, and to approve \$500 to be available for costs not covered by volunteers.

Tim presented a request by Gian and Art Schauer to hold a special Mission Beyond Saint Matthew Wings-As-Eagles event at Saint Matthew. The SMLC office would determine what costs would be associated with the event based on the scope, facility, etc. and those costs would be borne by Art and Gian as hosts of the event. MBSM will not be funding the event.

M/S/C Karen Ball/Phil Gomez moved that the proposed event be approved.

Vote: Yes – 9, No – 0, Abstain - 1

**Proposal:** Ross Heil recommended that a task force be formed to study and make recommendations centered on the future growth of Saint Matthew in the areas of attendance, membership and giving. He agreed to produce a written proposal, after consultation with Mark Hearn, in advance of our next meeting. The proposal will be review by the Council at that time.

**Adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ross Heil  
Acting Secretary