

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting Minutes
Sunday, January 28, 2025

1. **Call meeting to order** at 10:11 am by Council President Karen Zahn; 32 voting members were present, constituting a quorum.
2. **Opening prayer** was led by Pastor Beth Macha on being thankful for our blessings. Blanche Brenwall provided a reading from Matthew 6:34 on do not worry about tomorrow.
3. **Approval of Agenda**
 - a. A question was raised about the number of voting numbers present: a quorum was present,
 - b. A motion was made by Roy Lawrenz and seconded by Erika Schindel to approve to annual meeting agenda without additions; the motion was carried.
4. **Approval of Minutes** from 3rd Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, 20 October 2024.
 - a. A motion was made by Lora Houska and seconded by Patty Stabbe to accept minutes as presented; the motion carried
5. **Reading of the Mission Statement**; Karen Zahn read our mission statements:
 - a. Faith statement: "Living in God's grace, we walk by faith and not by sight."
 - b. Business statement: "Our mission is to support one another to be faithful in worship, witness, and outreach; committing ourselves to proclaim the Gospel."
6. **Financial Reports**
 - a. Year-end Reports
 - i. General fund
 - ii. Improvement fund
 - iii. Memorial fund
 - iv. Blessing Basket fund
 - v. Women's Group
 - vi. Men's Group
 - b. Audit Committee Report
 - i. Karen Hemken provided a verbal report that all financial reports were in order.
 - c. **2024 year-end reports** printed in the Annual Report (Approval by hand raising)
 - i. Earl Macha made a motion to accept the 2024 year-end reports as printed and audited; the motion was seconded by Maddy Holmes; the motion carried (32 yes, 0 no)
 - d. **Proposed Congregational Budget for 2025** (Approval by ballot vote)

- i. All committees submitted budget proposals.
- ii. A budget hearing was held one week prior to the annual meeting to answer specific questions from the Congregation.
- iii. The budget was a deficit budget (it was an aspirational planning document).
- iv. A ballot vote was called by president, Karen Zahn; the 2025 budget approved by ballot: 29 yes votes, 0 no votes, 1 abstention.

7. Pastor's Report

- a. See the attached written report.
- b. Many good things happened this year, including more fun events.

8. President's Report

- a. See the attached written report.

9. Committee Reports – written reports for all committees were attached

- a. Blessing Basket
- b. Building, Maintenance, Improvement/ HVAC Subcommittee
- c. Constitution & Policy
- d. Decorating
- e. Education
- f. Evangelism & Stewardship
- g. Landscape
- h. Long Range
- i. Memorial
- j. Men's Group
- k. Women of Our Redeemer's
- l. Worship & Music
 - i. Lenten services plan.
 - 1. We will be having an Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday services.
 - 2. The other weeks on Wednesday evenings we will be having soup & scripture led by members of the Congregation.
 - ii. Please refer to the written report in the Annual Report Packet

10. Old Business

- a. Danish Festival/Abelskiver
 - i. The ad hoc committee recommended going ahead with it this year
 - ii. In response to the question "Does the Congregation support this decision?" Patty Stabbe made a motion to proceed with the Danish Festival; the motion was seconded by Maddy Holmes. A 4:1 majority, by hand vote, supported doing it this year.

11. New Business

- a. **Election of Council Members**

- i. The Nomination Committee brought forward two members to be nominated for a second term on the Congregation Council: Greg Stabbe and Roy Lawrenz.
- ii. Maddy Holmes made a motion to close nominations and approve the ballot; the motion was seconded by Doddie Jenko.
- iii. The motion was approved by ballot, 32 yes votes, 0 no.

b. Conference Delegates

- i. Shawano Conference
 - 1. Karen Zahn Beverly Hicks will be attending.
- ii. Synod Assembly (7 June)
 - 1. No volunteers at this time
 - 2. Let Pastor Beth know if you are interested in attending

c. World Day of Prayer

- i. Scheduled for 7 March 2025 with the theme “God made us wonderful”.
- ii. The Hickory Corners United Methodist Congregation will be coordinating the event; it will be hosted by Our Redeemer’s because our facility is entirely accessible and can accommodate a large attendance.

d. Building, Maintenance, and Improvement Committee

- i. The Building, Maintenance, and Improvement Committee made an announcement that they will be making plans for responding to anticipated major maintenance items so that when they do occur, we will have anticipated them and will be prepared to address them. This will include evaluating types of building materials to use for replacing the siding and roof. When available, proposals will be presented to the Council and then to the Congregation.

12. Additions to Agenda

- a. Walk About – Lora Houska.
 - i. The church will be open for walking indoors.
 - ii. It will start on 27 January and be scheduled weekly on Mondays from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.
 - iii. Lora Houska will be the person from the Congregation with oversight on the sessions.
- b. New attendance cards are available in the pews. Completed cards will be used to establish the membership rolls and to acknowledge visitors.

13. Adjourn with Lord’s Prayer

- a. Greg Staabe made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Roy Lawrenz; the motion carried.
- b. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am with recital of the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by:
Lowell Suring
Council Secretary