

## Minutes – New Journey Lutheran Church Council – January 16, 2024

Present: Pastor Beth Gallen, President Cindi Brady, Vice-President Lou Hutchinson, Secretary Mike Bartanen, , Pete Galindez,

Meeting was convened at 5:30 pm.

Pastor Beth led with a prayer of discernment.

- (1) Minutes from regular December meeting were approved.
- (2) Minutes from special December meeting were approved.
- (3) Treasurer's Report. Presented by Pastor Beth:
  - a. End of year balances: Chase Checking: \$12,290.92. Food for Kidz savings: 8,002.66, Reserve Account: 43,442.02.
  - b. End of the year income and expense totals: \$143,9711.33 income. \$139,996 expense. Received undesignated \$3000 gift. Various issues and anomalies were noted: Conferences line was unusually high due to hotel costs. Pulpit supply and substitute pastor are the same thing. Discussion noted difficulty of current bookkeeping software.
  - c. Total income was about 8% above budget and 1% below in expenses.
  - d. 2024 Mission spending proposal is \$155,000. Pledged income is roughly \$135,000 including projected \$9500 in expected but unpledged income.
  - e. \$20,000 gap noted. Stretch goal letter draft was discussed. Pastor Beth will send by Friday.
- (4) Pastor's Report.
  - a. Christmas was a highlight. Approximately 50 people in worship.
  - b. Another highlight was welcoming the Matteis family.
  - c. December saw a high need for pastoral care. Numerous hospital visits as well as visit to home bound member.
  - d. Provided support for Food for Kidz and 10-year Celebration event.
  - e. Food for Kidz lost financial support from Shepherd. Previous support was \$3000. Issue was discussed. Need for clearly communicating impact with partners was noted. FFK requested the opportunity to ask congregation for special gifts at a February worship service. After discussion, the request will not be approved. President will write letter to team. Possibility of a special appeal later in the year was discussed.
  - f. Celebration team finalizing plans. 46 people registered. Will include a free will offering to attendees. Bigleys volunteered to cover any additional meal costs. \$2000 from a special gift was allocated to this event.

**(5) Old Business.**

- a. **Special Meeting to discuss Mission Spending plan did not yield a lot of discussion of Mission Spending Plan.**

**(6) New Business.**

- a. **Annual meeting agenda and plan was discussed.**
- b. **Assuming spending plan is approved, transition to separate bookkeeper and treasurer positions was discussed. Pastor Beth will complete a tentative job description and contact potential bookkeeper to determine whether she is still interested. Pastor will create a flow chart identifying various financial matters which need to be transitioned.**
- c. **Council positions will be determined after annual meeting and identifying a regular meeting time will be determined with input of new council members.**

**After Lord's Prayer, meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Michael Bartanen, Secretary**