

**ROSER MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
December 14, 2022**

In Attendance: Glenda Beck, Jim Bennington, Cherrie Birkman, David Cheshire, Doug & Dianne Delong, Dan Divine, Dale & Barb Dohner, Nancian Hall, Gary Hickerson, Rick Maddox, Bill Marini, Cathy Meehan, Peggy Nash, Gretchen Petraske, Donna Pope, Cass Robertson, Rev. Dr. Dirk Rodgers, Jeanette Rothberg, Darrel Shinn, John & Sharon Skladany, Randy Swain, Ron Vandeman, Alan Ward, Sharon Wisniewski, Randy Zion.

CALL TO ORDER: Cathy Meehan, Chair of the Congregation, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Meeting was held remotely by Zoom.

Joys & Concerns were shared. Pastor Dr. Dirk Rodgers opened the meeting with prayer.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES from 11/16/22

There were no corrections to the minutes.

MOTION by John Skladany to accept the minutes from 11/16/22 as published.

2nd Dianne DeLong

MOTION PASSED

REPORTS PRESENTED - In addition to the published December 2022 B/C Reports submitted.

Pastor – Pastor Dr. Dirk Rodgers

- See Pastor's report as sent to Council members in the Joint Summary File.
- Thanks to all who worked this past week-end at the Bethlehem Walk and the Christmas Parade.
- Planning a new Bible study class for February. Contact Pastor Dirk with suggestions for topics, books, days, times, etc.
- January Series will run through January.

Nominating Committee - Darrel Shinn

- Very busy contacting Board and Committee Chairs and members to serve another term.

Trustees – Alan Ward

- See Report.
- Contracting with new Landscaping company to begin in 2023

Deacons – Sharon Wisniewski

- See report in Joint Summary File.
- Next meeting in January.
- Working with Pastor Dirk to update member information. This will be a focus in 2023.

Missions – Randy Swain

- See report in Joint Summary File.
- Will meet in January.

Music – Jeanette Rothberg

- See report.
- Dress rehearsal for Cantata is Thursday and the performance is Sunday.
- Errine Abu concert is Wednesday.

Altar – Donna Pope

- See report in Joint Summary File.
- Planning to refresh the furnishings and paint the Narthex.
- Two new members have joined the committee.

Membership – Sharon Skladany

- No report, but commended the Altar Committee for beautiful decoration of the church for Advent.

Guild – Cherrie Birkman

- See report in Joint Summary File.
- Correction – January program will be Bringing on the Ministry by Marinda Harry (not Harvey).
- Thanks to Mary Deur for playing her flute at the Guild program yesterday.
- Thrift Shop will be closed Saturday Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, and also on the Fridays for donations before those days.

Library – Dianne DeLong

- Thanks to the Thrift Shop for a tub of books for the Little Free Library.

Stewardship – Randy Zion

- They had a Stewardship Moment during the Sunday services November 27th to make the congregation aware of financial needs. Contributions have increased to above last year, although there is still a deficit.
- There has been an increase in loose plate cash giving for the first Sunday of December since resuming passing the plate, but it is difficult to make a comparison due to only the one data point, changes with Covid, and changes in church demographics. They continue to analyze.

Financial Reports - David Cheshire, Gary Hickerson, Jim Bennington

- Gary reported November income exceeded budget and expenses were under budget, for a net positive income of \$30K vs. budgeted deficit of \$11K for the month of November. YTD, income is still down but the YTD loss is less than projected. Contributions were up.
- YTD assets grew compared to last month but still lag behind last year by 11%. Roser has no financial liabilities.
- Jim reported investments have improved but are still down from LYTD. The portfolio is well diversified and Roser remains in good shape.
- David reported the YE deficit is projected to be \$25K which is much less than projected.
- Christmas staff bonus plan.

MOTION by David Cheshire that after Board of Finance and then Executive Committee approval, to approve a total \$6,825 Christmas Bonus pool for Roser staff, as allocated by Executive Board in its role as the Personnel Committee.

2nd Jim Bennington

MOTION PASSED

- Pastor Dirk's housing allowance for tax purposes. David explained that Pastor Dirk is allowed tax benefit by declaring a portion of his salary for a housing allowance.
MOTION by David Cheshire after Board of Finance and then Executive Committee approval, to designate \$4,300 per month / \$51,600 per year of Pastor Dirk's 2023 salary as a reasonable housing allowance for his tax purposes. This has no impact on his salary paid by Roser.

2nd Jim Bennington

MOTION PASSED

- Budget for 2023 - David reviewed the draft budget for 2023.
 - Project a budget deficit of \$25K for 2022 YE which can be covered by reserves. There has been an increase in giving through November and early December.
 - Inflation will continue to have a significant impact on the 2023 budget.
 - All programs and ministries are funded for 2023.
 - Worship contributions are projected to continue to be lower in 2023 due to church demographics, inflation, and the economy.
 - Are projecting a budget deficit of around \$75K for 2023 but final numbers will be available after 2022 year end.
 - The budget will be presented to the congregation for approval in February 2023 at the annual meeting.

<u>Investments</u>	11/30/2022	YE 2021
Long-Term Sustaining:	\$393.3K	\$450.4K
Oper / Emer Reserves	<u>\$334.3K (\$136.2K cash)</u>	<u>\$361.1K</u>
Total Investments	\$727.6K	\$811.5K

- Financials Report – As of November 30, 2022 (compiled from detail reports):

<u>Executive Summary of YTD Operating Income and Expenses</u>		
	11/30/2022	2021
Operating Income	\$483,298	\$459,253
Unrestricted Memorials	<u>\$86,431</u>	<u>\$103,025</u>
Total Income	\$569,729	\$562,277
Operating Expenses	\$580,521	\$576,374
Capital Improvements	<u>\$51,713</u>	<u>\$35,917</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$632,234</u>	<u>\$612,292</u>
Net Operating Income	-\$62,504	-\$50,015
<u>Specials (Designated)</u>	2022	2021
Income	\$105,718	\$136,531
Expenses	<u>\$141,792</u>	<u>\$210,784</u>
Specials balance	-\$36,074	-\$74,253

Statement of Financial Position:

Total Liabilities and Net Assets as of November 30, 2022:

	2022	2021
	\$882,406.73	\$994,097.05

Roser Food Pantry – Cathy Meehan

- November: Distributed 40 bags of groceries (a decrease from prior months) and distributed \$3050 in Publix gift cards which is decreased from prior.
- Have applied for a \$6000 Trolley Grant for the Food Pantry.
- Blessings boxes continue to distribute about 1 bag's worth of groceries per week.

OLD BUSINESS

- Community Engagement Coordinator – Pastor Dirk updated that there are currently no candidates for the position. The Search Committee recommends pausing the search for now as the timing does not seem right. There were no objections. God is still sovereign and is still working and guiding Roser in His time.
- Campus Update / Capital Projects - Pastor Dirk gave an update:
 - Outdoor stage: Waiting for final drawings then will take to city for approval. Once approved by the City, will commence the capital fundraising campaign.
 - Indoor project - have the architectural drawings and will seek bids for costs. Will then begin fundraising campaign.

NEW BUSINESS

- Music Ministry - Pastor Dirk reported he has met with Music Committee, Craig and Brandon, and Deacons to discuss adding some contemporary music during the 8:30 Sunday service. They recommend adding one contemporary song to only the 8:30 Sunday service, beginning the 2nd week in January. Pastor Dirk has contacted his previous New Hampshire church who offered use of their contemporary video-led music library which is already created, at no cost to Roser. Roser Church will continue to hold traditional Sunday worship services with hymns. A café worship format is still under consideration but more discussion is still needed of day, time, location, etc.
- Alan suggested everyone read the Roser Bylaws and Policy Manual to understand the description of what their Board/Committee position entails.
- Thanks to Bill Marini for the outside work he has done the past two weeks and also to Gail and Bill for putting up Christmas lights.
- Cathy thanked all Council members for volunteering their time and talent to make Roser a wonderful church.
- Cathy wished all a very Merry Christmas and happy holiday season.

Next Meeting: The next regular meeting .of Roser Council is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25th, 2023 online at 7:00 PM.

Adjourn / Prayer: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM, Pastor Dirk ended the meeting with prayer.

Minutes submitted by Cass Robertson, Clerk of Council