

**ROSER MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
January 24, 2024**

In Attendance: Jim Bennington, Glenda Beck, David Cheshire, Doug & Dianne DeLong, Dan Divine, Barb & Dale Dohner, Kathleen Geist-Eskew, Nancian Hall, Gary Hickerson, Bill Marini, Cathy Meehan, Peggy Nash, Gretchen Petrasky, Donna Pope, Lorna Smilde-Powers, Cass Robertson, Dirk Rodgers, Darrel & Sue Shinn, John & Sharon Skladany, Ron Vendeman, Sharon Wisniewski.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Cathy Meehan, Chair of the Congregation, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held remotely by Zoom.

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

**APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES from 12/13/23**

There were no corrections to the minutes:

**MOTION by Jim Bennington to accept the minutes from 12/13/23 as published.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Peggy Nash**

**MOTION PASSED**

**REPORTS PRESENTED - In addition to the published January B/C Reports submitted.**

**Pastor – Rev. Dirk Rodgers** – See report in Joint Summary File as sent to Council

- Six people approached pastor Dirk after last week's sermon with intentions to join Roser. Two of them met with Pastor and will join Roser Church this week.
- Pastor Dirk met with the Deacons and they finalized a procedure to offer Communion to shut-ins. The Deacons are now authorized to offer Communion upon request to shut-ins and hospital patients.

**BREd – Glenda Beck** – See report in Joint Summary File as sent to Council

- Nursery Position (see documents in their report in the Joint Summary File).  
**MOTION by Glenda Beck to approve the Nursery Attendant Job Description and Memorandum of Understanding as distributed.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sharon Wisniewski**

**MOTION PASSED**

- Glenda reported the search committee has been developed.

**Deacons – Lorna Smilde-Powers**

- About 1000 people attended Christmas Eve Services – everything went smoothly.
- Deacons met this week and finalized their schedule and duties for the year.
- Deacons will begin offering Communion to those in the hospital and others upon request.
- Deacons are keeping in touch with people who are sick or in the hospital.

**Finance – David Cheshire, Gary Hickerson, Jim Bennington, & Cathy Meehan**

- David reported Roser ended 2023 with a surplus of about \$12,000. The two prior years had a deficit at YE. The surplus this year was due to year end increased giving and decreased expenses mainly due to repair vs replacement of the air conditioner units.
- Gary Reported operating income was over budget for December and for the year, and expenses were under budget for December and for the year. BOF had expected a deficit of \$60,000 at YE but ended \$12,000 to the positive. Total assets have increased over 2022.
- Investment Committee Report - Cathy Meehan and Jim Bennington
  - Cathy Meehan, Chair of the Investment Committee, stated the goal of the committee is to provide oversight of all of the Roser investment funds. It is a sustaining long-term fund. There is also an emergency fund. The investments are reviewed throughout the year. A summary report is made to Exec and Council monthly in the Finance Report.
  - Total investments were up 16.1% over 2022 at YE. Total of \$816,182, an increase of \$113,089 over 2022 YE.
  - Jim reported there is \$450K in the Sustaining Fund and \$370K in the Reserve Fund with \$100K in cash. The portfolio is well balanced and well managed. It was a good year for Roser.
- The 2024 draft Budget as sent to Council members was presented by David Cheshire.
  - 2023 ended up better than expected due to decreased expenses and increased income through memorial donations. A deficit is anticipated for 2024 due to probable air conditioner replacement and continued inflation effects. This deficit is worst-case scenario and there is enough money in the reserve fund to cover it, if needed. The goal is to continue to grow the Church so no cuts in operations, programs, or missions will be needed. It is hoped that income will increase over the 2% budgeted and cover the deficit again at 2024 YE.
  - **MOTION by Andy DeVries to accept the budget as presented and forward to the congregation for approval at the Annual Meeting.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Darrel Shinn  
MOTION PASSED**

• <u>Investments</u>	12/31/2023	YE 2022
Long-Term Sustaining:	\$455.1K	\$376.4K
Oper / Emer Reserves	<u>\$361.0K</u> (\$188.5K cash)	<u>\$326.7K</u>
Total Investments	\$816.1K	\$703.1K

• Financials Report – As of 12/31/2023 (compiled from detail reports):  
Executive Summary of YTD Operating Income and Expenses

	2023	2022
Operating Income	\$624,807	\$591,981
Unrestricted Memorials	\$86,169	\$86,456
Total Income	\$707,976	\$678,437
Operating Expenses	\$684,968	\$648,339
Capital Improvements	\$6,583	\$51,713

Total Expenses	<u>\$691,551</u>	<u>\$700,052</u>
Net Operating Income	\$16,425	<b>-\$21,615</b>
Designated	2023	2022
Income	\$204,373	\$149,666
Expenses	\$199,892	\$160,884
Net Designated Income	\$4,481	<b>-\$11,218</b>
Statement of Financial Position:		
Total Liabilities and Net Assets as of December 31, 2023:		
	2023	2022
	\$1,054,396.54	\$923,602.23

**Guild – Barb Dohner** – See report as sent Council in the Joint Summary File

- The Guild met 1/9/24 and installed new officers and passed their budget.
- Migrant Sewers are already hard at work.
- The Thrift Shop is booming. They surpassed \$100K in income in 2023.
- They continue to donate to Missions, Scholarships and Roser Church.
- They had an appreciation luncheon for all the volunteers in January; 38 attended.
- Next Guild meeting 2/13/24 which is a Valentine Tea
- The Fashion Show is coming up in March.
- Pastor Dirk reported one of the new members wants to volunteer at the Thrift Shop

**Library – Dianne DeLong**

- Little Library is going well. They continuously need more books as the books put out are not returned.

**Membership – Sharon Skladany**

- Kathleen Geist-Eskew has joined the Membership Committee.

**Missions – Peggy Nash** – See report in Joint Summary File as sent to Council

- MissionFest will be March 10, 2024.
- They appreciate all the support of the missions.

**Music – Cathy Meehan for Sherry Oehler** – See report as sent to Council

- Music Program had a display in the Narthex on January 7<sup>th</sup> to talk with potential new bell ringers and singers. Some people expressed interest in joining the music program. They are planning a Bells workshop in April.
- They purchased two new bell tables that will allow them easier set-up in the Chapel.
- Music Appreciation Sunday – 2/18/24 at the 10:00 service. A special program is planned.
- Youth Performing Arts – meet during Sunday School. They will sing on Music Appreciation Sunday
- Easter Cantata rehearsals begin 2/1/24. The Cantata is scheduled for 3/4/24
- Brandon is teaching piano lessons.
- Choir Robes have not been used in four years and the Acolyte robes have not been used in six years. They are reviewing what should be done with them. Considerations to keep and maintain would include purchasing storage cases and finding space to store them. If the front of the

Sanctuary is remodeled, they will need to move from their current storage area behind the choir loft. Email Sherry Oehler with your thoughts on what should be done with the robes.

**Nominating – Darrel Shinn & Barb Dohner – (See report and slate of officers sent to Council)**

- The 2024 officer slate was presented by Darrel. There is a vacancy for Vice Chair of the congregation. There are also vacancies on the Board of Deacons and Board of Trustees which are long-standing for several years. They are requesting a change to the Bylaws to decrease the number of Deacon and Trustee positions required for these boards.

**MOTION by Darrel Shinn to accept the Elected Officer Slate as presented and forward to the congregation at the Annual Meeting for final approval.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Peggy Nash**

**MOTION PASSED**

- Barb Dohner thanked Darrel for all his work on the Nominating Committee and putting together the spread sheet. Darrel thanked Barb and also Joyce Karp for all their hard work.

**Stephen Ministry - Lorna Smilde-Powers**

- SMs continue to work with Care Receivers.
- GriefShare is in progress.
- Contact JoAnne Moyer if you know someone who could benefit from a Stephen Minister's care.

**Trustees – Alan Ward**

- Outdoor stage – Alan reported they are finishing the project.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Sanctuary stage – Pastor Dirk reported the Major Projects Team is in the final stages of their work on putting together a recommendation for a proposal.
- The Annual Congregational Meeting is 2/4/24. All were encouraged to attend.

**NEW BUSINESS – Cathy Meehan**

- By laws amendments – First Reading - as sent out to Council. Members acknowledged receiving and reading the document. This is the first reading. The second reading will be next month and include a vote by Council to approve the changes.
  - Change the Board of Deacons from 16 to 12 members and the Board of Trustees from 10 to 8 members.
  - The other changes are minor word changes as explained in the document sent out.
- Contracts Oversight Team approval must be renewed annually.

**MOTION by Cathy Meehan to extend the Contracts Oversight Team for another year as required by Bylaws.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Dale Dohner**

**MOTION PASSED**

- Alan Ward requested review of an agreement for commercial Property Lease Agreement for golf carts from a new business. David noted this issue is currently in process.
- Cathy Meehan announced this will be her last Council meeting as Chair of the Congregation. She thanked Council members for their dedication and hard work, with many holding more than one position. She acknowledged the time and talent that has been dedicated to doing the church's business.
- Sharon Wisniewski will be the new Chair of the Congregation after she is elected at the 2024 Annual Congregational Meeting and will preside at the next Council meeting.

**Next Meeting:** The next regular meeting of Roser Council is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2024 online at 7:00 PM.

**Adjourn / Prayer:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM. Pastor Dirk closed the meeting with prayer.

Minutes submitted by Cass Robertson, Clerk of Council