

**1. CALL TO ORDER** (President) 9:39 AM

**2. QUORUM:** Council Secretary confirmed we have a quorum with 107 of approximately 559 voting members present. A quorum is 10% per the constitution.

**3. REVIEW OF MEETING SCHEDULE.**

**4. PRESCHOOL REPORT:** (Karen Spellman, Preschool Director): This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> year of the Preschool and planning is underway for a celebration. Preschool reopened in the fall with small classes of 15 students for two hours. Since then, the class sizes have increased. The Preschool is still limiting the amount of people in the classrooms at any given time and are cleaning frequently. Current enrollment is 30-34 students. A new teaching assistant was hired since the co-op program was paused. For the year, the preschool had to rely on its savings as classes were paused and supplies cost more – additional cleaning supplies and individual toy sets were needed. However, they have started to reverse that trend now that they are reopened.

**5. DAYCARE:** (Amanda McKinney, Director; Bree Armentrout, Assistant Director; Diana Gromling, Program Supervisor): Full enrollment throughout year. The waitlist was so long, it was suspended. The daycare has worked closely with the Health Department and daycare families to keep the daycare healthy and safe. They have partnered with the Department of Emergency Management on UV sanitation and COVID testing. Mental Health and Self Care has been a focus for 2021, such as emotion labels and coping skills. The daycare has gotten a grant to help the staff deal with the stressful environment. Goal for 2022 is to take care of family and staff mentally and physically. Big shout out to Diana for all she has done for our daycare and first responders.

**6. PRESIDENTS REPORT:** (Jeff Robinson – President): Theme for last year was “find a way.” Many people and groups came together to find a way, meaning we are in a good spot. Big thanks to the members of the church council and the fantastic staff we have at the church. Pastor Adrian and Deacon Marj found many ways to keep us together. We started out this year virtually, then moved to parking lot, and now we back in the building with proper precautions in place. Kelly and Paul went above and beyond this year. Paul has put a lot of work into the sale of the Ministry Center. The Finance Committee stayed very engaged. We have great directors in the daycare and preschool. The daycare has given a lot back to the church. They have refreshed the bathrooms, replaced the fencing, and painted the building. The Community Garden has provided over 1,800 lbs. of food to the foodbank during the pandemic. The youth group found creative ways to get together and have their retreat. We’ve created quilts and care packages for all over the world. Big thanks to Corrinne for helping all those in need. Work outside including taking care of some distressed trees and finishing the shed.

**7. FACILITIES:** (Paul Gaudette - Church Business Administrator): It’s great to see people in the sanctuary again. COVID has not seemed to stop First Lutheran. The church hosted a vaccination clinic that served over 1,000 people. Thanks to Amanda, Karen, and their staff downstairs for dealing with all the red tape and rules. Several expensive repairs occurred. New adjustable LED lighting and fans were installed in the fellowship hall. Water seeped into the daycare during the recent snow and rain, a new sup pump had to be installed outside. One of the big exhaust fans also had to be repaired. The staff offices were refreshed with new paint and floors. Our finances are in good shape, when a repair is needed it can be undertaken. Goal for 2022 is new floors in the fellowship hall. The Ministry center is almost sold – it is almost emptied. The tenant left lots of furniture that said we could take, so we were able to upgrade

lots of our furniture. The sale will close this Friday and with the money we make, and a bit of our savings, we will pay off the mortgage. Big thanks to Leonard, Ned and Nancy, who have done a lot of work to contribute to the church.

**8. FINANCES:** (Fred Seidel - Treasurer): Giving was very solid for the year and we ended with a surplus. The Resource Coordinator program is well funded and has enough to cover a significant portion of the salaries. We moved a large amount into the savings account from the checking account to earn some interest. When the sale of the ministry center closes and we pay off the mortgage, it is one of the larger changes to the budget.

Budget highlights - Largest expense is generally salaries. We are following synod guidance on salaries for Pastor and Deacon, plus minimum wage increases required by the state. For the first time in a while, we were able to increase the wages of several of our salaried employees as well. With the ministry center sold, income is down but mortgage expense also decreases as it is paid off.

**Nancy Rollins motioned that we approve the budget presented by Fred. Julie Powelson seconded. The motion passed by majority vote.**

**9. ADJOURNMENT:** (Jeff Robinson – President) 11:07 AM

**Julie Powelson motioned that we adjourn. Chris Billings seconded. The motion passed by majority vote.**