

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting
30 April 2017
Minutes

(NB: Fellowship time prior to meeting recognized that 2017 is the 20th anniversary year of PoP fully chartered under the ELCA Constitution.)

Call to Order: 11:05 a.m.; Deanna Outsen presiding (See annual information packet for additional, detailed information on the following)

Adoption of Agenda

✓**MSP** to accept (Sandra Weingart, Joan Mahoney, voice, unanimous)
[Quorum: 20% of voting members, or 13 individuals; in attendance: 42;
majority vote= 21 (removing chair from count); 2/3 vote = 28]

Opening Prayer (Pr. Scott) Hymn 808; led Opening Litany with assembly

Approval of Minutes from 2016 Annual Congregational Meeting (24 April)

✓**MSP** to accept (Joan, Mahoney, Sandra Weingart); Discussion/corrections--none

Pastor's Report: Spoke of the important work of the Purpose Statement, occupying much of the Council's time, to replace the Mission Statement in the future; should be part of an on-going process that takes the work of the church into the congregation and thence to the community; flexible and dynamic; change when needed; he expressed his gratitude for all at PoP and announced he would be attending the RMS assembly.

Congregational Council President's Report

Deanna led assembly in reciting in unison:

"Our Purpose

In living and daring confidence in God's grace,
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is
Gathered, Gifted, and Sent

Our Guiding Questions

As we discern God's call, we are guided by these questions
Does this
... reflect God's grace? (The Cross)
... inspire celebration? (The Empty Tomb)
... gratefully steward God's gifts? (Abundant Fruit)
... embrace our Lutheran Christian tradition? (Deep Roots)
... strengthen our connection to God and creation, the church and all
people? (Baptism and Communion)"

✓**MSP** to accept Purpose Statement and Value Questions (Barb Kragthorpe, Matt Outsen, voice, unanimous) Discussion--none

Deanna and Pr. Scott made a presentation with slide images amplifying the meaning of how PoP is "Gathered, Gifted, and Sent" in an alternating format; Pr. Scott stressed the "Open Format" nature of the process; we are to be Gathered from whatever it is that holds us (back) and he asked each to consider any element of the church that was especially meaningful in the past year; we are Gathered in Utah (Conference,

meeting in Taylorsville this past year, for example) and in the RMS, the largest geographical synod with connections to a ministry in Madagascar (info on website); Deanna underscored the many stories that can be told at PoP, stressing our Gathering in the ELCA, in outdoor ministries (Luther Heights), with newcomers and summer citizens; Pr. Scott spoke of being Gifted with God's Word and the Sacraments and Deanna recognized the gifts of music and children; Pr. Scott spoke of being Sent as a "new generation" (he marched with 30,000 energized young people at the assembly in Detroit); in 2018 the ELCA Assembly will be in Houston, and there will be many opportunities to volunteer; Pr. Scott spoke of the church being Sent into a "broken world" and cited the memorial ceremony attended by 150+ people-- including Logan's mayor--at PoP following a terrorist shooting last year; we are also Sent to the (USU) campus and he stressed the significance of campus ministry, concluding with an appeal for an increased level of giving in the coming year to support the work of PoP in the world.

Financial Packet

2017-18 Budget Proposal

Pr. Scott pointed out that the line items had been classified into three component parts: Liturgy, Service, and Learning, and how a specific item might cover one or more components as a reference to the new Purpose Statement.

✓**MSP** to accept (Joan Mahoney, Sebastian Los, voice, unanimous); Discussion—Dave Wilson asked for more specifics on the banking charges, to which Brad Kropp mentioned Thrivent and the Simply Giving charge of 5% on offerings processed through it; Barbara Kragthorpe asked if it were not better to just write a check; Karin deJonge-Kannan suggested having one's bank set up a recurring monthly payment, which Pr. Scott said was probably the ideal method; Brad Kropp will look into the Simply Giving charges; Terri Kohlmeier raised the question of why we needed to pay utility deposits, to which Lesa replied that it is a reality that such charges do come up from time to time with non-residential property; in any case, this is listed as an asset and is probably not recent.

Constitutional Updates (Amendments passed at 2016 ELCA Assembly)

Colin Johnson summarized the amendments from a sheet in the packet (attached), noting that many were global changes involving nomenclature and theological and organizational matters, some minor; there was a correction to our existing document regarding Audit, Nominating and Mutual Ministry committee terms, further amended to correct "April 31" date.

✓**MSP** to accept 2016 Amendments to Model ELCA Constitution and to Item C13.08 removing contradictory information on term lengths (Colin Johnson, Joan Mahoney, hand vote, substantially more than 2/3 of assembly voted for approval, as required) Discussion—Eric Allen requested an explanation of the revised language referring to the pastor as a "Minister of Word and Sacrament;" Dave Wilson and Kathy Evans followed this with questions regarding whether it indicated a shift to a greater importance of the diaconal ministry (one of the amendments mentions that a temporary pastor may come from the diaconal ranks if from a church in full communion fellowship with the ELCA); Pr. Scott responded with an explanation of the traditions and possibly legal distinctions between "Word and Sacrament" and "Word and Service;" Lesa Wilson asked whether we might be concerned that "a sign of the times" may be a decline in pastoral education, to which Pr. Scott assured that the church strongly resists a lowering of standards for pastors, but that indeed this is an indication of a trend; Eric Allen complimented the Council for sticking to the designation of "Christian" (rather than specifying "Lutheran" or "ELCA member") on the item designating "Associate Members" of

congregations; Sandra Weingart asked for a division of the house vote (actual count), noting that the action required a 2/3rds vote.

Team Reports

Audit Committee

Mutual Ministry Committee

Campus Ministry Team

Christian Education Ministry Team

Congregational health Ministry Team

Evangelism Minister Team

Property Ministry Team

Service Outreach Ministry Team

Stewardship Ministry Team

Worship Ministry Team

Youth Ministry Team

**ELCA Congregational Report A & C
Forms**

✓**MSP** to accept Team, Committee, and A & C Forms together (Dave Wilson, Joan Mahoney, voice, unanimous); Discussion—Pr. Scott briefly explained utility of the A & C Forms as a required statistical report and measure of congregational health.

Nomination Packet

✓**MSP** to accept nomination slate of candidates (Sandra Weingart, Paula Zsiray, voice, unanimous); Discussion—some nominees asked for minor clarification of their terms; Pr. Scott again thanked the various PoP committees, teams, and units (eg., prayer ministry) that include the receipt of many in-kind gifts, especially cleaning supplies, groundskeeping, hospitality (“best coffee in the ELCA” thank you to Straw Ibis), and educational supplies; he again suggested increased giving to heighten awareness of the responsibility of in-kind giving, for which he is nevertheless grateful.

Lesla Wilson nominated to Audit Committee, joining Barb Kragthorpe and Jon Grussendorf

Regina Dickinson nominated to Council, replacing position completed by Karin deJonge-Kannan; Joan Mahoney and Colin Johnson nominated to second and final 2-year term; Brad Kropp, Heather Johnson, and Paula Zsiray continuing in unexpired terms

Kim Lott nominated to Mutual Ministry Committee, joining Denise Stewardson; Pr. Scott to appoint third member, as necessary

Kristi Grussendorf, Karin deJonge-Kannan (as outgoing Council member), and Frank Pultar nominated to Nominating Committee

Mary Feldman and Denise Stewardson nominated to attend Rocky Mountain Synod Assembly in 2018

New Business -- None

Closing Prayer (Pr. Scott) Hymnal prayer (unison), p. 319

Adjourned: 12:03 p.m. ✓**MSP** (Dave Wilson, Paula Zsiray, voice acclamation)

Submitted by _____
Colin Johnson, PoP Council Secretary

Attachment: Annual Meeting information packet with reports, financial data, constitutional amendments, and other information

[Abbreviations: MSP/D = Moved, Seconded, Passed/Defeated; RMS = Rocky Mountain Synod; PoP – Prince of Peace; ELCA = Evangelical Lutheran Church in America]