

MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 27, 2019
SANCTUARY 4:00 PM

2018 Church Council Members: Craig Blois(Stewardship, Oversight), Joan Brundage* (Financial Secretary, Property), Brian Edwards* (President, Oversight), Betty Ertel (CDC Representative), Ivan Fernandez(Learning), Allison Johnson(Caring), Stan Patscheck(Fellowship), Susan Prosser(MET, Personnel), Tina Riley(Worship & Music), Keith Selbrede* (Treasurer, Budget & Finance, Endowment), Denise Sobolik* (Vice-President, Service & Missions), Cecelia Travick-Jackson* (Secretary, Adult Education, Policy), Norman Williamsen, Youth Representative (to be announced), Meredith Smith (Director of Ministries), Jim Bessey* (Pastor). **Executive Committee*

Quorum established and meeting proceeded- 73 members present (66 needed for a quorum)

Call to order at 4:05 pm by Vice President- Denise Sobolik

Opening Prayer: Pastor Jim Bessey opened the Annual Congregational Meeting with a Litany. The Litany was developed by the worship staff in the Churchwide office. Many of the congregations in the Southwest California Synod are using this Litany in their annual meetings.

Approval of 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes- Mary Goodenough moved to accept the minutes of the 2018 annual meeting. The motion received a second from Joni Swindle. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Approval of March 4 Special Congregational Meeting Minutes- Gail Baird moved to accept the minutes of the March 4, 2018 special congregational meeting. The motion received a second from Becky Riley. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Approval of October 7 Special Congregational Meeting Minutes- Herb Holler moved to accept the minutes of the October 7, 2018 special congregational meeting. The motion received a second from LaJean Wenzel. The motion passed by a voice vote.

MET Report-Susan Prosser, chair of the Mission Exploration Team (MET) began her report by introducing members of the mission exploration team ; Karen Cherry, Joe Swindle, Gordon Henry, Gayle Johnson, and Mary Goodenough. She then went on to give a brief overview of the MET process.

The congregation was given a survey to complete at the beginning of the MET process. One hundred and forty one congregational members completed the survey. From the survey the Mission Exploration team was able to learn what the congregation wanted and felt strongly about. After the MET information was gathered and analyzed the information was then given to the Church Council in November where it was endorsed and forwarded to the Call Committee. This information will assist the Call Committee as they review potential pastoral resumes, this information can then be passed onto the new pastor. All of the data from the Mission Exploration team is available for any member of the congregation to access. The data is available in two binders in the church office.

Three district goals or mission opportunities arose from the MET data analysis.

- † The first mission opportunity is to Invite, know and serve our neighbors. Our neighbors include, but are not limited to those living in 93010 zip code, Springville residential development area and local schools.
- † The second mission opportunity is to become a community clearinghouse for resources in our community. This mission opportunity would include partnering with our neighboring churches, St. Columba Episcopal Church, the United Methodist Church, Lutheran Social Services, and Camarillo Healthcare district just to name a few.
- † The third mission opportunity is to strengthen our foundation by having vibrant leadership, a strong children's Christian education program, a welcome team, a broader approach to Stewardship, and intentional relationship between the CDC and the congregation.

Upon entering the Annual Congregational Meeting each member was given a yellow table tent card to take home with the three mission opportunities, guided by John 13:34-53 "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another...By this everyone will know that you are my disciples."

There were no follow-up questions from the congregation.

Presentation –Pastor Jim thanked the MET team for their dedicated work. The document that they produced can be used a model for other congregations.

He also thanked the Call Committee for the January 13 congregational workshop. The workshop was led by Pastor Reg Schultz-Akerson, Assistant to the Bishop for Rostered Leadership. Pastor Reg said that not only was the workshop one of the best attended in the synod, it was also one the best organized workshops over which he has presided.

Presentation- Director of Ministries-Meredith Smith highlighted the Wednesday evening programs.

- † Fun with Faith-5pm; Inter-generational dinner-6pm; Confirmation-6:30pm; Bell choir; Choir practice.
- † She also thanked John Coby IV for providing the food for the intergenerational dinner. The food program is self sufficient
- † 9 people attended the summer conference
- † Her goals for the coming year include, more ministry for seniors, and the involvement of children and youth in worship.

Treasurer's 2018 Financial Report-Keith Selbrede

- † 2018 Treasurer's Report
 - Pledge Giving: 92.3% of budget (\$21,142 under)
 - Operational Income: 89.9% of budget (\$45,428 short)
 - Operational Expenses: 97.7% of budget (\$10,847 under)
 - Operational Reserves: \$36,564 (down from \$109,937)
 - Mortgage: \$310,367 (down \$15,106)
- † 2018 Budget Issues
 - Income Shortage
 - Brainstorming Sessions
 - Congregational Awareness
 - Cash Flow
 - Shore up reserves-move some funds from the patio back into the reserves
 - Liquidated the Fidelity Account
 - Depleted Reserves
 - We went from \$109,000 in 2017 to \$36,000 in 2018
 - Causes: bank reconciliation issues and low income
 - Band-Aids: MBC income and transfers from other accounts
- † On January 20, Keith Selbrede held two forums to discuss the budget. One of the questions that arose was-What was the benevolence for 2018?
- † Benevolence for 2018
 - Mission: \$32,990
 - Hunger: \$4,564
 - College Scholarships: \$4,500
 - ELCA Disaster Relief: \$3,115
 - Camp Scholarships: \$1,565
 - Quilters Activities: \$1,388
 - Gifts of Hope: \$1,222
 - Many Meals: \$1,058
 - Habitat: \$1,000
 - LRCC: \$750
 - CDC Tuition: \$500
 - Lutheran Bible Trans: \$400
 - Maritime Ministries: \$400
 - PLTS: \$400

○ LSS: \$1,150

Lutheran World Relief: \$310

† The pavilion cost and sources was another question from the forums. It was noted that none of the money for the pavilion was paid from operating funds. All of the money for the pavilion was paid from donated funds. In the beginning we did transfer \$40,000 from reserves and during the year we transferred that \$40,000 back to reserves.

○ Special Memorial Funds: \$84,015

Legacy Fund: \$7,700

○ Building Fund: \$4,935

Memorial Fund: \$8,201

○ Parking Lot Sale: \$4,125

Concert Series: \$2,000

○ 2017 MBC: \$3,000

Dedicated Giving: \$106,498

Total: \$220,474

Questions regarding 2018 budget:

- Melissa Henry asked to have the accounting problem of \$28,000 addressed. The accounting error was brought to the congregation's attention on a Sunday during 2018.
 - Keith Selbrede replied that we are now reconciling the account every month. In the past we were not doing a monthly reconciliation. In the past we only looked at the reconciliation from the audit committee and that was always good, so monthly reconciliations were not done. The reconciliation is done by Heather Edwards, the Mount Cross bookkeeper and then Keith Selbrede follows-up making sure everything is done correctly.
- Norman Williamsen asked for a clarification on the question. Mistakes in the accounting were found for over \$25,000. Keith Selbrede responded that he was correct. Norman Williamsen wanted it emphasized that the money was not missing, rather it was lost in the books.
- Lisa Higginbotham wanted to know how much money was raised from Make Bake Celebrate (MBC) and where did the money go? Keith Selbrede answered that MBC netted roughly \$17,000. It brought in around \$24,000, expenses around \$7,000.
 - Denise Sobolik also added that because of the financial constraints in the budget, the Church Council approved all of the funds from MBC be applied to the operating budget with the exception of benevolences. This was approximately 10% and there was also the Tips for Teens

that did not go into the operating budget, rather it went for the youth program.

- Gail Baird suggested that perhaps in 2019 MBC could be part of the reports at the end of the year.
- Bill Greason stated that the church does not see the finances of MBC or the CDC. He feels that there should be a financial report from MBC and CDC.
- Melissa Henry agrees that there should be a financial report from CDC.
- Brian Fisher stated that a full financial accounting of MBC was given to the financial secretary.

† The Budget Process

- October: Request Inputs by Account
 - Expenses
 - Dedicated Income
- November: Treasurer Prepares Requested Budget
 - Budget & Finance Review/Adjustment
 - Stewardship Pledges Received
- December:
 - Executive Committee Review/Adjustments
 - Council Review/Adjustments-at this point council went through the budget line-by-line because we knew we would be short on funds, even though we knew more pledges would be coming in. This is a dynamic process.
- January
 - Council Approves Adjusted Requested Budget-which then becomes the recommended budget.
 - Since the approval of the recommended budget we have had more pledges to come in.
 - Congregation Amends/Approves Recommended Budget

2019 Recommended Budget Amendments

- † Pledge income up income is up \$10,630 \$286,535 (line 50100)
- † Special general giving is up \$100 to \$10,400 (line 50600)
- † Operating income is up \$10,730 to \$414,070 (line "Total 50000Operating Income")
- † Facility use down \$1,100 to \$22,000 to reflect CDC budget (line 53000)
- † 61101 Mission support up \$773 due to increased income
- † All budgeted benevolence (except Hunger) now paid by the operating budget rather than Legacy (Endowment Fund)
- † 63850 Call Committee budget (\$10,000) now split (\$164 paid by operating budget and \$9,836 by Legacy)

Through the support of the Legacy (Endowment Fund) we can submit a balanced budget for 2019.

Mount Cross Budget Comparison

	2018		2019	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Most Current Recommended by Council Since Last Council Meeting
Pledge Income	\$275,998	\$254,856	\$275,905	\$286,535
Gross Income	\$451,324	\$405,496	\$426,503	\$436,112
Stewardship & Welcome	\$1,403	\$843	\$1,400	
Mission Benevolence	\$32,990	\$32,990	\$30,708	\$31,481
Salaries & Benefits	\$301,121	\$298,360	\$280,907	
Operating Expenses	\$117,332	\$112,482	\$112,724	\$112,888
Program Operating Expenses	\$15,180	\$12,503	\$7,236	
Total Operating Expenses	\$470,226	\$459,378	\$426,503	\$436,112

Questions and Comments regarding 2019 budget:

- † Randy Churchill wanted clarification on what exactly the congregation was approving. The figures on handouts that the congregation was given was

different than what the council approved. The council approved, through electronic vote, the latest budget figures that were presented after the formal December council meeting. The figures that the congregation was given were the December council meeting budget figures. He suggested that the budget figures given to the congregation coincide with the latest budget figures approved by the council.

- † Gordon Henry suggest that there should be a motion to approve the new budget amended amount.
- † Denise Sobolik confirmed that when the congregation votes on the 2019 budget the motion will be to approve the amended budget that the council approved as the amended recommended budget.
- † Randy Churchill continued with a second concern. In 2018 the pledge income was \$275,998 and the actual income was \$254,856 roughly 10% less than we actually received. His concern is that we are putting the budget back up and unless we change our giving ways we are looking at an automatic 10% shortfall in anticipating that kind of money. He does not feel that the shortfall has been adjusted in the budget.
- † Denise Sobolik reminded everyone that a line item in the budget is \$10,000 for the Call Committee. This is to cover travel expenses should the Call Committee need to travel somewhere or that we need to pay for a pastor to come to Mount Cross to be interviewed or a meet and greet. We are hoping that we will not have to spend that amount of money, but it was suggested and recommended that we put that amount of money in the budget so that we have it available. This is a one-time cost for this year.
- † Randy Churchill restated that his comment was that we are projecting \$275,998 and history has told us that the pledges, whether actual or adjusted, that we do not reach that and yet we are budgeting expense items against that unadjusted for loss of pledge money.

At this point there was mumbling and side conversations that were not included since the chair did not recognize the speaker(s), their comments are not included in the minutes.

- † Jim Prosser continued by speaking to Randy's point. The \$275,905 now \$286,535 that is now income represents all pledges. Looking at 2018 we took all pledges of \$275,905 but we only got \$254,856. I suggested a couple of weeks ago at the forum, have we done any test of the pledges to see how good they are? The question is, is it historical that we lose 10%? Why are we budgeting as income, 100% of pledges?

- † Keith Selbrede stated that we have always done the budget this way. We are not always short.
- † Bill Greason had previously asked that the budget be presented as a line-by-line 4 page summary. When done as a line-by-line summary one can see where things are changing in each of these line items. He urges the treasurer to present the budget as a line-by-line summary. He made the request last year and again this year to use a line-by-line summary format. Secondly, he would like to know if anyone will discuss salaries.
- † Denise Sobolik responded that council looked very hard at the budget line-by-line. We looked at where we could cut, where we could cut back, what we could cut out. We did not want to touch salaries. At the beginning of the year Pastor Jim offered to take a 15% pay cut from what we had been paying him. We did not want to touch Meredith's salary.
- † Bill Greason responded that we raised her salary this year.
- † Keith Selbrede explained last year part of Meredith's salary was paid from a dedicated fund so that's why it looks like there is an increase, actually all you see is the operating portion of Meredith's salary from last year. This year there is not that dedicated fund to draw from so it looks like she got an increase, because it is all coming out of operations.
- † Bill Greason follows by saying that the information presented to us must contain that comparison.
- † Tracy Blois: "First of all this is a tremendous amount of work all done on volunteer hours. I want to thank everyone who has put together, scrutinized budgets, done stewardship, sat in countless meetings, thank you.

Second of all the question on whether we should budget for 100% of pledge income because that's the pledges we've received, and the historical data shows that is how we have always done it. 2018 was an anomaly. In the shortfall coming in, an important point to keep in mind is that there was over \$100,000 in extra giving for the patio project that could have shifted dollars from people's pledges into that donation and it was a concern from the beginning of the patio project and the capitol campaign. So if we don't have historical data in past years other than 2018 for this pledged shortfall, then we should keep it at 100%."

- † Becky Riley expressed concern at the forum that the new pastor's salary is based on the current pastor's 15% decrease. I realize we are in tough straights, but we are trying to attract a new pastor. I had an understanding from the forum that the salary number is not a firm number, but it seems to me that if we approve it then it is a firm number. I would appreciate you addressing that.

- † Keith Selbrede states that we are not locked into that amount. We really didn't have anything to go from or for when we will have a new pastor in place. The only thing we could go from was what we have in hand and what we agreed to pay. The congregation will approve the salary package for any called pastor. That will be a separate discussion and approval process apart from this meeting altogether.
- † Darrel Johnson asked if the shortfall in income correspond to a decline in attendance, and do you project that same decline into the future? It seems to me that maybe we should work on the attendance and if it is just an anomaly then that is just the way to look at it.
- † Keith Selbrede responded that he had no way of knowing. My first inclination is that the shortage is due to the money that we put into the patio more than the attendance, but I have no way of actually knowing.
- † Rick Gardner, chair of the Legacy Giving Team. Keith Selbrede has been talking about our recommendation to provide some support to the budget from the Endowment Fund. We were requested, from the Church Council , to look at that. By 2/3 majority, which is required if we think there is a dire emergency, we approved \$23,000 to be added to the budget. Brian Edwards, chair of the council, wanted to make sure this was a balanced budget. Last year, I believe, we did not have a balanced budget. I think we approved a budget that was out of balance last year. We wanted a balanced budget this year. As Keith Selbrede has said, because of the additional pledges we are down to \$9,600 that is still requested of us.

The Call Committee money, should we be required to move a pastor, will be coming from the Endowment Fund. Everything else, benevolence et al is now part of the budget. So that adjustment has been made.

Also, we saw a huge drop in reserves over the past year, from \$110,000 down to \$20-30,000. \$28,000 was due to the mistake, but the rest of it was an actual drop. We as the Legacy Giving Team also recommended that if Church Council thinks there is about to be a cash flow problem that we (legacy giving) be given an advance notice of a month or so. We can arrange to cover a cash flow drop. Again, this is in the by-laws that this constitutes a dire emergency and by 2/3 majority we can approve it and cover that.

- † Kathy Channels was not aware that anyone requested that the CDC lower what they have been paying to the church. They have been paying \$2,000 per month.
- † Keith Selbrede you have been paying \$2,100 per month, but your budget at the end of the financial says \$22,000, that is why I changed it to that. If that is incorrect information that is great.

- † Kathy Channels: “No, I was just wondering what the church is expecting as income from the Church this year?”
- † Keith Selbrede: “Based on your budget \$22,000.”
- † Kathy Channels: “So it hasn’t gone done?”
- † Keith Selbrede: “Yes, because last year it was \$23,100. It went down \$1,100.”
- † Kathy Channels: “I’m confused.”
- † Gordon Henry: “The financial page at the back of the report shows \$22,000 in your estimate. Keith Selbrede took that number and put it into the new budget. If you keep paying the agreed to amount it will be back to what you are used to paying.”
- † Gayle Johnson began by saying she had several things to talk about, but would limit her concerns. First she is concerned about the continued use of reserve funds and the slippery slope of using our Endowment Funds. Instead of using Endowment Funds for the Call Committee, perhaps we can have a campaign for that, doing something special to raise those funds. This congregation will come forward for things like that. I know that it was brought up that perhaps the pavilion campaign took away from pledge giving. Gayle goes on to say that her experience in the church has been just the opposite. When we do things people are excited and we have larger giving. This has been my experience of 40 years at Mount Cross. We might want to look at things differently at how we do our budget.
- † Denise Sobolik stated that she has made notations of some of the comments and they will be passed onto the next council.

When budget and finance first brought the budget to council we had a huge deficit of \$22,000-\$23,000. Through the updated stewardship campaign that is now down to \$9,000. I just want to remind you that we have the one-time Call Committee expense of \$10,000. If we did not have that we would have a balanced budget based on our pledges.

- † Peter Johnson stated that a campaign is a good idea, but that we consider raising money from the community at large rather than just the congregation. We all give regularly, but that is also a finite resource.
- † Karen Cherry asked to have the status of childcare offered on Sunday morning.
- † Meredith Smith responded that the Sunday morning childcare was about \$3500 of the budget. The learning committee continues to discuss childcare services, but what we have now will be discontinued by the end of February.
- † Tracy Blois stated that there is a learning committee meeting on Monday, January 28, where they will be actively discussing refreshing the kid bags and ways to continue welcoming families with young children into the congregation; we want them present in church, we have the children’s message. The invitation is open to

anyone who wants to be part of that conversation. Learning Committee meets Monday at 7pm and anyone is welcome.

- † Gayle Johnson added that having worked in that area for a long time, the discontinuation of Sunday morning childcare was very disturbing. Also, having worked on the MET this is an area we need to grow. If we are reaching out to young families, we need to offer Sunday morning childcare. It is not just about us and our children, but also about the people we want to come. I am hoping that is something we can look at and do something about because if we are going to reach out to our neighborhood, which is something we really need to do, then we need to offer these kinds of services.
- † Meredith Smith said that currently we have 2-3 children that use the childcare/nursery services on a Sunday morning. There might be one person in the nursery for one service, and sometimes we don't have anyone. The service is not really being utilized at all. Perhaps in the future we can revisit this.
- † Randy Churchill stated we cannot constantly look at expenses and say cut, cut. If we are going to grow. We need not to cut everything and if the nursery care is a vital thing and we are going to bring young people in I don't think that is an item that should be cut. Even if it is only one or two right now, we will not continue with just one or two because we hope to add more to it.

Approval 2019 Budget

- † Denise continued by stating, At this point I am going to call for a motion to adopt the council recommended amended 2019 budget that the council has recommended. Is there a motion?
- † Randy Churchill commented as to what we were actually voting on since the budget that was given to the congregation did not reflect all of the current up-to-the-minute changes.
- † Denise Sobolik read each area and the current budgeted amount.

Craig Blois moved to adopt the council recommended amended 2019 budget. The motion received a second from Lisa Saner

Discussion

- † Susan Prosser: "Those are the corrections to the operating budget, however, what's been presented to us to adopt was adopted last year and previously are an all funds budget requested budget. If we go the 2019 recommended budget the outer most line of future figures is requested budget and it totals un-amended \$502,781. So we would need an amendment to that outer column so that we are not only adopting a

budget that involves general operating income and expenses an all funds budget number to adopt correct?

So what you have presented to us is all columns funding and expenses. So what we've corrected on your slide are those funds that are unique to what you call operating income and operating expenses, but if you go to what was presented in the packet without amendments would have been adopting the first column, the requested which is what is now recommended is totaling over \$500,000 and its basically an all funds budget. It includes programs supported with designated funds in addition to those that are coming from operational funds. So don't we need a new bottom line?"

- † Keith Selbrede replied: "\$506 didn't change?"
- † Susan Prosser said: "Mine says \$502."
- † Keith Selbrede answered: "That's because of the CDC thing."
- † Susan Prosser responded: "Isn't the budget we are going to adopt the total budget and not just the operational budget?"
- † Keith Selbrede: "\$506,854 is the amended budget including dedicated funds. \$436,112 operating expenses and \$70,742 dedicated funds."
- † Randy Churchill asked for clarification on the motion.
- † Denise Sobolik reiterated that the motion includes the entire budget.

Patti Stouch asked Ben Fisher, a member of the sound booth team, to make a slide to be projected so that the congregation was able to see the most current amended budget approved by council.

2019 Mount Cross Amended Recommended Council Approved Budget

Most Current Recommended by Council	
Pledge Income	\$286,535
Gross Income	\$436,112
Stewardship & Welcome	\$1400
Mission Benevolence	\$31,481
Salaries & Benefits	\$280,907
Operating Expenses	\$112,888
Program Operating Expenses	\$7,236

Total Operating Expenses	\$436,112
Dedicated Funds	\$70,742
Total	\$506,854

Denise Sobolik repeated the motion before the vote, **Craig Blois moved to adopt the council recommended amended 2019 budget. The motion received a second from Lisa Saner. The motion passed by voice vote.**

Elections

As the 2019 ballots were being passed out Gayle Johnson, chair of the 2018 nominating committee introduced the members of the committee; Brian Fisher, James Prosser; Gordon Henry, and Mike McClary.

Denise Sobolik read the name of each nominee in every committee and asked them to stand so that they could be seen by the entire congregation.

2019 Nominees

- **Nominating Committee-Vote for no more than 5**
 - Marilyn Gardner
 - Karen Gramacki
 - Cy Johnson
 - Anne Valencia
 - LaJean Wenzel

Denise Sobolik asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor for the nominating committee. Seeing none, Denise Sobolik declared the nominations for the nominating committee closed.

- **Voting Members to Synod Assembly-Vote for no more than 3**

Nominate a total of three members. The three nominees are to be two women and one man or two men and one woman.

 - Gordon Henry
 - Melissa Henry
 - Stan Patscheck
 - Susan Prosser

Denise Sobolik asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor to the synod assembly voting member. **Allison Johnson moved to nominate herself to the synod assembly as a voting member. The motion received a second from Gail Baird.** Denise Sobolik then asked if there were additional nominations from the floor to the

synod assembly as a voting member. Seeing none Denise Sobolik declared the nominations closed for voting members to the synod assembly.

- **Mediation Board-Vote for no more than 3**

- Randy Churchill
- Jim Prosser
- Becky Riley

Denise Sobolik asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor for the mediation board. Seeing none, Denise Sobolik declared the nominations for the mediation board closed.

- **Audit Committee-Vote for no more than 1**

- Bill Greason

Denise Sobolik asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor for the audit committee. Seeing none, Denise Sobolik declared the nominations for the audit committee closed.

- **Endowment/Legacy Giving Committee-Vote for no more than 2**

- Tracy Blois
- Jan Gerck

Denise Sobolik asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor for the endowment/legacy giving committee. Seeing none, Denise Sobolik declared the nominations for the endowment/legacy giving committee closed.

- **Church Council -Vote for no more than 7**

Two year term. Can serve three terms in succession.

- Kevin Churchill
- Betty Ertel
- Brian Fisher
- Bill Stoll
- Cecelia Travick-Jackson
- Norman Williamsen
- (Open Slot)
- (Open Slot)

Denise Sobolik asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor for the Church Council .

Norm Williamsen nominated Randy Churchill to serve on Church Council . Randy Churchill respectfully declined the nomination. Seeing no additional nominations, Denise Sobolik declared the nominations for the Church Council closed.

Jim Prosser moved that we cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of names as written, for the Nominating Committee, Audit Committee, Mediation Board, Endowment/Legacy Giving Committee and Church Council . The motion received a second from Craig Blois. The motion passed with one person voting no and one person abstaining.

Voting Members to Synod Assembly was done by ballot.

Nominate a total of three members. The three nominees are to be two women and one man or two men and one woman. Denise Sobolik announced the results of the vote

- Gordon Henry-54 votes
- Melissa Henry-35 votes
- Stan Patscheck-32 votes
- Susan Prosser-42 votes
- Allison Johnson-35 votes

Melissa Henry and Allison Johnson had a tie vote. A runoff vote between Melissa Henry and Allison Johnson followed the initial vote.

- Melissa Henry-23 votes
- Allison Johnson-38 votes

Voting members of the synod assembly are:

Gordon Henry

Susan Prosser

Allison Johnson

† Denise Sobolik thanked the outgoing council members, Brian Edwards, Stan Patscheck, Tina Riley and herself, Denise Sobolik. Please keep new 2019 council members and the returning council members in your prayers.

† Melissa Henry asked members of the congregation to return to the benevolence slide. She thanked the congregation because, hunger, ELCA disaster relief, quilter's activities, gifts of hope, and habitat are straight of your pockets and dedicated to those organizations. She just wanted to thank the congregation.

- Benevolence for 2018

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ○ Mission: \$32,990 | Many Meals: \$1,058 |
| ○ Hunger: \$4,564 | Habitat: \$1,000 |
| ○ College Scholarships: \$4,500 | LRCC: \$750 |
| ○ ELCA Disaster Relief: \$3,115 | CDC Tuition: \$500 |
| ○ Camp Scholarships: \$1,565 | Lutheran Bible Trans: \$400 |

- Quilters Activities: \$1,388
 - Gifts of Hope: \$1,222
 - LSS: \$1,150
 - Maritime Ministries: \$400
 - PLTS: \$400
 - Lutheran World Relief: \$310
- † Denise Sobolik continued, we recently did a fundraiser to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital to be donated in the name of Jackson Soyster, Pastor John's grandson. This church once again opened their wallets, showed their generosity and showed their love. We raised \$570.00 that will be sent to St Jude's Children's Hospital in the name of Jackson Soyster. Pastor John sent a thank you card that is on the kiosk for all to read. In that card he noted the caring and generous spirit of this congregation.

Old Business

None

New Business

- † Gayle Johnson would like to suggest and recommend that this year with the concern over our budget that monthly, the congregation is informed, not only with numbers but with what's going on and in addition to that the ideas that came up through the meeting today of suggestions of other ways to raise funds, create funds to keep us all abreast of what's going on so that the congregation is a part of the concern.
- † Table grace (Doxology) was sung at end of the meeting so people would be able to immediately go to and through the potluck buffet dinner, graciously prepared by the Church Council and fellowship committee.
- † Melissa Henry offered while waiting on the buffet line please feel free to make a couple of homeless kits, from the provided supplies, to carry in your car to be offered to homeless individuals that you might encounter.

Motion to Adjourn

Randy Churchill moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion received a second from Craig Blois. Motion passed unanimously.

Closing Prayer and Blessing-Pastor Jim

Adjourn: 5:54 pm

Respectfully Submitted
Cecelia Travick-Jackson, Recorder