

LITTLE RIVER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Annual Meeting

January 25, 2015

The 2015 Annual Meeting of Little River United Church of Christ was called to order at 11:45 a.m. by Moderator, Tom Ross. He noted the presence of a quorum, and announced George Leonard would serve as parliamentarian.

It was moved, seconded and approved to dispense with the reading of the call to the meeting. Tom announced that the minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting had been approved by the Church Council on February 12, 2014. He stated that without objection the minutes of today's meeting would be approved at the next meeting of the Church Council.

Transitional Pastor for Faith Formation, Hank Fairman, offered an opening prayer.

Tom noted that in the past year the church has moved from a church in transition to one planning for the future. The highlight of the past year was welcoming David Lindsey as only the third called Senior Pastor in the church's 60 year history. He recognized the services of Susan Henderson and Ron Rising for their service as Interim Senior Pastors, and thanked Hank, who survived all the staff changes. He also thanked staff members and volunteers for their support, noting especially the work of Dave Curtis as treasurer, Steve and Kent Rogers as Archivist/Historians, and Linda Anderson as past-moderator. He pointed out that in the coming year the Governance Board will be developing a new evaluation process for the pastors as well as continuing work on restructuring church governance and working with Hank to determine the next steps for his position.

David Lindsey added his thanks to the interim pastors, staff and volunteers who saw the church through the first half of the year, and thanked the congregation for its support when his mother passed away in August. He noted that LRUCC will be celebrating its 60th anniversary in the next few months, and that the next step is to determine where God is calling us forward. He ended by thanking the congregation for the opportunity to serve.

Reports: Tom said unless there were questions or additions to the Annual Report, he planned to omit review of the Report. There were no questions or additions.

Nominations and Appointments: Bunny Jones presented the slate of officers and new members of the boards and committees with the following corrections to the ballot:

- Comptroller is not an elected position, therefore omit.
- Add John Forrest (2), for Church Council Members-at-Large.
- Remove Kathy Richardson and add Camille Brooks and Hube Beckwith for Nominations and Appointments.

There were no nominations from the floor. By written ballot, the slate was elected unanimously.

Governance Reorganization: Linda Anderson moved that the pilot restructuring program of the Church Council continue for another year, with a report due to the congregation at the 2016 Annual Meeting. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Dismantling the New Jim Crow: Karen Kleiber moved that the “Dismantling the New Jim Crow,” resolution be adopted. The motion was seconded and adopted by voice vote.

By-laws: Dave Curtis moved to amend the by-laws as follows. The motion was seconded and adopted by voice vote. (note: additions are underlined, deletions are ~~crossed-out~~)

Article VIII, Section 3

f. *Qualification for Office.* Church membership is a prerequisite to the holding of elected Church office.

i. *Transparency:* Records of all meetings of the church, including meetings of Boards and Committees, except for closed portions of meetings as authorized above, shall be available to any member of the Church. All policies of the Church shall be publicly available including on the website.

Article IX,

Section 6, *The Comptroller* shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees and is responsible for monitoring disbursement of funds. ~~Under the direction of the Board of Trustees, the Comptroller shall receive requests for disbursements, categorize the expenditures to the proper budget line item, and when approved, forward the requests to the Treasurer for payment.~~ Subject to such limitations as the Board of Trustees or the Council may establish, the Comptroller may authorize the Treasurer to make disbursements.

Section 9, *The Receiving Financial Secretary* may be either a member of the paid staff or a member of the Congregation appointed by the Board of Trustees. The Receiving Financial Secretary shall process and record all revenues consisting of cash and checks and deposit the funds into the bank under procedures established by the ~~Treasurer~~ Finance Committee and approved by the ~~Finance Committee~~ Board of Trustees. All work done by the Receiving Financial Secretary up through the point of preparing ~~the deposit ticket~~ a traceable permanent record shall be done together with one other unrelated person.

Section 10, *The Recording Financial Secretary* may be either a member of the paid staff or a member of the Congregation appointed by the Board of Trustees. The Recording Financial Secretary shall be the person principally responsible for recording financial information (e.g. pledge, budget, accounts payable, electronic funds transfer, etc.) except that involving receipt of cash revenues under procedures established by the ~~Treasurer~~ Finance Committee and approved by the ~~Finance Committee~~ Board of Trustees.

Article XI,

The Church Council shall consist of the Church Officers, the presiding officer of each Board and Committee, and the immediate past Moderator. In addition, the Congregation may elect three members of the Church to serve as members-at-large of the Church Council for a term of two years. After serving three full terms, the members-at-large shall be ineligible for re-

election for one year. The Moderator shall chair the Council, which shall meet at least quarterly; special meetings may be called by a Pastor, the Moderator, or by any three of its members.

The Church Council shall consider the entire task of the church, advise the Pastors on the general direction of the Church's activities, and co-operate with the Pastors in the formation of a well-rounded program. The Council may act for the Church in minor matters and to approve policies governing administrative aspects of the Church's operations, but unless such action is taken with practical unanimity, it must have the confirmation of the congregation.

The Council may organize in a manner to best accomplish its business and establish rules for operation.

The Council shall fill any vacancies on the Nominations and Appointments Committee, and shall submit a slate of nominees for such Committee at the Annual Meeting.

~~The Council shall include a subcommittee, consisting of the Moderator and a representative of each Board of Committee having responsibility for ordained or lay staff personnel, that will meet at least quarterly to coordinate church staffing issues and policies.~~

Article XII

Section 8, The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer, the Comptroller, representatives of the Board of Trustees the Endowment Fund Committee, and one or more members at large approved by the Council. The Committee is responsible for establishing and reviewing the Church's financial policies and practices for overseeing implementation of those policies and practices.

The Finance Committee reports jointly to the Council and to the Board of Trustees. The Committee recommends financial policies to the Council. The Committee may establish details of financial practices that are consistent with the approved policies. The Committee is then responsible to the Board of Trustees for overseeing the financial policies and practices.

Section 9, *Sub-Committees*. (renumbered)

Section 10, *Special Committees*. (renumbered)

Treasurer's report: Dave Curtis reported the church is in good financial shape. It ended 2014 with a surplus. The largest portion of the church budget goes to staff.

Stewardship report: Jen Beckman reported that while the Stewardship Campaign did not reach its optimistic goal, they received \$48,000 in new sources of revenue to make up for the \$41,000 in lost revenue due to moves and other changes.

Budget: Ben Northrup thanked the members of the budget committee who all made compromises to develop the 2015 balanced budget of \$727,675 which is down from the original target budget of \$812,000. The proposed budget is close to the 2014 budget and uses the surplus from 2014. Board and committee chairs expressed their confidence that in spite of some cutbacks, the church will be able to not only continue its programs but also to grow and thrive. (Note: The pastors salaries include

housing allowances of \$47,499.96/yr. for the Rev. Dr. David Lindsey and \$42,000/yr. for the Rev. Henry Fairman.)

Ben moved that the budget as presented be adopted. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Closing: Tom thanked Council members and turned the meeting over to Cici Thompson, in-coming Moderator, who expressed her excitement about the coming year, when we will be identifying our future and starting along that path. Bunny Jones the noted that since the demise of the printed newsletter there is no way to share personal information among members, and she requested a solution be found. Hube Beckwith expressed thanks to Heather Shackley for leadership on the Communications Advisory Team. Tom noted that we had one original member among us, Jane Hustvedt.

It was moved, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

David closed meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann Lingo
Clerk