

Annual Congregational Meeting  
January 23, 2022

Presenters:

- Pastor Wiese
- Rick Burnett
- Mark Bunker
- Minka Fulton
- Pastor Beecher

Rick Burnett began the meeting at 12:30. Rick presented a brief outline of the meeting. A quorum was acknowledged with 44 members in attendance in the sanctuary and another 28 joining via Zoom.

Pastor Fritz began the meeting with a prayer. Following the prayer, Pastor Fritz acknowledged outgoing Council members Mike Oliver, Eric Jakubowski, and Robbi. He also acknowledged the hard work of staff members.

Rick reviewed the Quorum Requirements and Voting Requirements. In addition, we will follow the Robert's Rules of Order and Video Meeting etiquette.

Rick presented a motion to approve the June 6, 2021 Congregational Meeting minutes as were submitted. Motion was seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved in person and online.

Rick thanked the Staff, Council members, and various people who all gave their time to make our church so great. Highlights from the annual report:

- Facilities Management Team made numerous contributions to our building.
- Stewardship – the Abundant Water campaign was a success.
- Technology Team is making numerous improvements to our worship experience.

Rick made a motion to Approve the January 2022 Annual Report. The motion was seconded. The motion was unanimously approved in person and online.

Mark Bunker gave a synopsis of the first six months of our finances. Mark highlighted the members of the Finance Team and the various roles they fill. Reference his report for specifics. Mark highlighted:

- We are 7% below income budget. Expenses are 13% below budget due to savings in most categories with the largest being personnel and maintenance.
- Net income is slightly below positive year to date. We have not recognized capital gains on investment income year to date.
- Don Livingston asked a question regarding the PPP loan which was forgiven during the last fiscal year. The loan forgiveness allowed us to be positive at the end of last year.

- Income has been quite variable but very strong in Q4 at 6% over budget, making up for some of the very weak Q3 (20% below)
- Balance sheet continues to be strong.
- Overall, our finances are good.

Rick Burnett made a motion to approve new Council Members.

- Shelly Jones is a teacher at Peachtree City Elementary School and a member of COS since 2002. She's a member of Logos and Stephens Ministry.
- Patrick Bauer joined COS in 2016 and quite active with Youth and Family Ministries.
- Stephen Gundersen works at Deloitte and Touché. He's was raised and confirmed within the ministries of Christ Our Shepherd and he and his family have recently returned
- Sydney Watton is a junior at Macintosh and is our first Youth member in quite some time.

Rick moved that the congregation elect Stephen, Patrick and Shelly to serve three-year terms as members of the COS Congregational Council and Sydney Watton to serve a one year term as the Youth Representative on the 2022 COS Church Council. The motion was seconded. Motion was unanimously approved in person and online.

Motion #4 - Move that the congregation elect two members to serve as Synod Assembly reps for Christ Our Shepherd was tabled as representatives from COS to this year's Synod Assembly have yet to be identified. A number of individuals had been asked but for the most part due to the dates of the event in early June, already planned vacations resulted in the folks asked having to decline.

Back to Worship Survey conducted January 3, 2022. Rick thanked the team of Barb Anderson, Scott Bosecker, Mike Oliver, Karl Dietmeyer, Eric Jakubowski, Lisa Manthley, Sue Byers and Carol Jensen their work in putting together with survey. Discussed were the following:

- 135 Respondents as of 1/20/2022 an increase of 40% over the 2021 survey. Not all responded to all questions.
- About ¼ of voting congregation responded to survey.
- 76% of those who responded to the survey and are vaccinated (to include booster) are back to attending services.
- Over 100 written "free format" responses to the questions in the survey were recorded and those responses will be reviewed and appropriate action taken where the Council and staff believe something positive can be accomplished

Rick then took the time to highlight some of the goals that the 2022 Council would focus on. Those included:

- Sanctuary improvement project continued momentum
- Return to a fully staffed Church office
- Follow-up on weaknesses identified in the audit
  - Document Management & Record Retention
- Continue to monitor and proactively react to virus in an effort to create a safe environment for our congregation and guests
- Continue to find ways to always be improving our communication activities
- Keep the stewardship theme of “Abundant Waters” alive throughout the year
- Stay on top of our financial position
- Continue to work closely with our COS Staff and ministry leaders to make certain they have everything they need to be successful

Rick then took a few minutes to highlight the additions to the COS staff and open positions that need to be filled in 2022.

Finally, Minka Fulton presented the annual report for the Mission Endowment. The principal balance is \$64,000 with approximately \$5,150 available for distribution. Suggested distribution was \$2,050 to the COS Pre-school, \$773 to the Midwest Food Bank and \$773 to Novus Way (Scholarships for Lutheran Camps), \$773 to the Haitian Timoun Project and \$773 to Lutheran Partners in Global Ministries. A motion was put forward and seconded to approve this distribution of funds and unanimously approved.

Pastor Miriam brought the meeting to a close with a final prayer and Rick adjourned the meeting at 1:30pm.