

Council Connection for January and February

Actions taken by Council:

- **Approved** the 2024 Resolution Authorizing Signers on Hope Lutheran Financial Accounts (Kristina Giffin, President; Richard J. Gal, Vice President; Pamela A. Fenn, Secretary; Gary R. Hill, Treasurer; Pastor Jon-Marc MacLean, Lead Pastor)
- **Approved** JB Bricklemyer as counsel at the rate of \$400/hr. and approve the \$1200 retention fee payment. (*Just a note of explanation: This is for Hope South building project. JB has been our attorney, but he has changed firms and Council needed to sign a new agreement with him.*)
- **Approved** moving back \$100,000 from the South Side Fund to the General Fund (In 2022 \$100,000 was moved from the General Fund to the South Side Fund to help pay for expenses. This was prior to the capital campaign.)
- **Approved** the following as the REVISED Call Committee: Richard Gal (Chair), Pr. Jon-Marc MacLean, Diane Kupchak, Don Maronde, Pat O'Dell, Carol Dittmar, Susan Blumenberg (Neiman)
- **Approved** the contract with Universal Engineering Sciences firm for soil borings on Hope South property and to include an additional \$800 dollars for \$2 million limit of contractual or professional liability.

Treasurers Report – Gary Hill, treasurer, provides quarterly reports to the congregation.

Discussions/Things to know:

- **Hope South** - Bob O'Dell and Dale Fiet keep Council updated on all that IS happening AND COULD HAPPEN at Hope South!!!! (Remember there is a special place on our website dedicated to all Hope South information.) It is listed under the "about" tab on the website. Also, there is a handout (Living Abundantly) for the congregation every month. (Thank you ushers.)
 - Every month Council reviews the progress of the Capital Campaign.
- **New Phone System** - Hope has a new phone system (the congregation will not notice any change, but it is a helpful tool for the Pastors.
- **Membership** – Every January, Bob Franceski, Business Administrator, updates Council on membership data. This data is used to calculate a quorum for Congregational meeting. Total membership as of December 31, 2023 was 2,251.
- **Celebrating Retiring Pastors Pera and Knepel.** On January 28th there was a reception for Pastor Marcus Pera & Pastor Bob Knepel. The congregation thanks you.
- **...and much more!** You have probably heard our meetings are long and yet this document is short –if I wrote it all in the document you might be very bored. Just know we work well together as a team; we laugh and pray together. Amen!!!

Pastors Reports:

- Each month Pastors provide written reports that review/share with Council projects and initiatives they are working on or plan to start.