

**CHURCH OF THE COVENANT  
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2016**

**OPENING**

The annual congregational meeting of The Church of the Covenant was called to order by the Rev. Dr. Stuart D. Broberg at 12:15 p.m. in the Covenant Center on Sunday, February 21, 2016. This was the second attempt at holding this annual congregational meeting, which could not be held on Sunday, January 24, 2016, because of a lack of quorum.

Moderator Rev. Dr. Broberg declared a quorum present. Dr. Broberg then advised that the minutes from this meeting will be reviewed by Session and approved in advance at the end of the Congregational Meeting. It was moved by David Taylor and seconded by Jim Little to approve the docket for this meeting and the approach to the minutes as outlined above. A vote was held, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Broberg then reviewed the administrative procedures under which this meeting would be run. There was no opposition voiced to the procedures he outlined.

**REVIEW OF THE CHURCH'S 2015 STATISTICAL REPORT**

Jonathan Pachter, Clerk of Session, reviewed the 2015 Statistical Report. Our current membership is 814, vs. 819 at the end of 2014. That reduction is mainly due to a number of people being taken off of the church's active roll, following the required review of the active roll by the OAR Committee. It is important to note that several different attempts were made to get in touch with people to persuade them to stay on the active roll, and some folks did decide to stay on as active.

**THE CORPORATION MEETING**

A motion was made by Karen Simonini and seconded by Tom Gladden to temporarily adjourn the ecclesiastical meeting in order to convene the corporation meeting and that the President of the Corporation, Elder Chuck Neff, will preside at this meeting. The motion was unanimously approved by the congregation. Chuck Neff, President of the Corporation of the Church of the Covenant, then presided over the corporate meeting.

**RECEIVING THE SESSION-APPROVED 2016 OPERATING BUDGET**

Mr. Neff asked Finance Committee Chairperson Brian Teagarden to provide some analysis of the end-of-year 2015 finances, and to explain the 2016 Operating Budget (previously received by Session at the January 8, 2016 Session meeting). Mr. Teagarden noted that we ended 2015 with a deficit of approximately \$15,000. Per capita payments were current and we funded most but not all of our promised mission support.

The motion came from the Finance Committee and was seconded by Tim Grantz to receive the 2016 Operating Budget. The group next answered questions about the 2016 Budget. Questions asked included:

- Would the Finance Committee provide the congregation with information to show how the Light the Fire campaign funds were spent, and what funds are left? Brian said yes.
- Are we going to hire people to help Ralph? Sue Denmead of the Personnel Committee said we would not be hiring anyone at this time since there are no available funds.
- Are we buying air conditioning for the sanctuary? Dr. Broberg said that there are no plans to install air conditioning in the sanctuary.
- What is the status of repairs to the parking lot? Jerry Davison of the Buildings and Grounds Committee noted that there could be about \$30,000-40,000 available for limited repairs, but not the approx. \$130,000 needed for a complete repair. Brian Teagarden said that there may be some Light the Fire money available for this work.
- How much income do we receive from rent on our rental properties? Jerry Davison said that we receive about \$40,000 per year in rental income.

There were no additional questions or comments, and the motion to approve the 2016 Operating Budget was unanimously approved by the congregation.

#### AUDIT REPORT

Chuck Neff read a letter to the congregation from the Audit Committee. In that letter, this Committee noted that all of our accounts were in good order, and that they had no recommendations for improving how we account for our finances. The church's financial reports were approved as written.

#### **ADJOURN THE CORPORATION MEETING AND RECONVENE THE ECCLESIASTICAL PORTION OF THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

A motion was made by Jim Simonini and seconded by Steve Johnson to adjourn the corporation meeting in order to reconvene the ecclesiastical meeting. There was no discussion. The congregation voted unanimously to approve the motion.

#### APPROVE THE PASTOR'S TERMS OF CALL

Dr. Broberg called on Jonathan Pachter to moderate the meeting at this time so his terms of call could be reviewed. Dr. Broberg left the room at this time. Mr. Pachter called on Sue Denmead of the Personnel Committee to address any questions about Dr. Broberg's terms of call. The motion was made by Sue Denmead for the Committee and seconded by Jim Simonini to approve the presented terms of call for Dr. Broberg. There were no questions or comments from the congregation, which then voted unanimously to approve the motion. Dr. Broberg returned to the Covenant Center, resumed his role as moderator, and thanked the congregation for their confidence and their approval vote.

RECEIVE ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dr. Broberg acknowledged the annual reports prepared by the Session's Committees. A motion was made by Sue Denmead and seconded by Jon DePoe to receive the 2015 Annual Reports. There were no questions regarding the Annual Reports. The congregation unanimously approved the motion to receive these Annual Reports.

**APPROVE THE MINUTES PENDING SESSION APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Terri Grantz and seconded by Steve Johnson to approve the minutes of the congregational meeting pending Session review and approval. There was no discussion and no questions, so a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNING THE MEETING**

After a motion to adjourn was made by Mary Wichterman, seconded by Debbie Shankovich and then approved unanimously by the congregation, Dr. Broberg adjourned the meeting with a prayer at 1:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jonathan M. Pachter*

Jonathan M. Pachter  
Clerk of Session