

**Annual Meeting Minutes**  
**Lutheran Church of the Incarnation**  
**November 24, 2019 - revised**

The meeting was called to order by congregation President Carol Huegli promptly at 11:45. Pastor Dan Smith opened the meeting with prayer.

Reports were provided by the congregation President and Pastor which summarized the activities they had engaged in during the past year. The congregations' Treasurer Dave Kukis provided a summary of the proposed annual budget and upon completing his discussion of financial affairs a motion was made to accept the budget proposed for 2019/20 as the operating budget for the coming year.

M/S/C: Copelan/ JBerry /Unanimous.

Reports were provided on maintenance and infrastructure improvements planned by the property committee by Carl Linvill, Sanctuary Renovation by Craig Copelan and the many good activities of the Social Justice committee by Ellen Kolarik.

At this point the congregation President resumed control of the meeting and asked the participants to discuss their response to pressing issues facing the church, declining attendance, financial affairs, and how better to foster social connections for individuals and families. Two discussion groups were formed, notes provided indicated the following ideas were discussed: She noted that soliciting information of this sort from the congregation is something the council would like to do a couple of times per year.

**Brainstorming Topics: for review by council – 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Congregational Brainstorming Session**

- A Sunday evening Rooted type service that would be made available for the college age and older crowd, with nice contemporary style music and food (both for the spirit and body).
- Work on the development of our brand, our members do a lot of service out in the community, we need to be intentional about letting people know. An example was used of the signs in place at each end of the Highway 113 Adopt a Highway section which note Lutheran Church of the Incarnation cares for creation.
- The Sanctuary renovation will make the interior of the space more flexible as far as uses, perhaps greater use of the facility would be possible, for the arts, community events, speakers, etc.
- Actively seek greater use of our facility for increased rental income, weddings, parties, community events.
- Channel income created by new uses into paying off the mortgage and improving our financial picture.
- Make use of beautiful back yard for outdoor summer events, BBQ's.
- Include showers for overnight stays by church groups.
- Increase ecumenical outreach to improve the impact of our efforts in the community.
- Sanctuary Renovation- Open to UC Davis groups, music, drama, lectures a new venue close to campus

- We need to be conscious of our brand- we need to communicate that we are members of LCI when we are out serving in the community, Example Highway 113 Clean Up Signs notes that the cleaning is done by members of the church, Gods Work Our Hands T shirts logo- Lutheran Church of the Incarnation ELCA
- Seek more opportunities to invite outside groups to our church to make more use of the great space.
- Critically examine policies and eliminate those that are not welcoming or controversial
- Movable pulpit and furniture in Sanctuary to make better use of space.
- Better management of scheduling to make sure groups have space and that the space is appropriate for their needs.
- Ecumenical multifaith ministry working with Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim etc.
- Better outside lighting in parking lots for greater security during night time events.
- Back Up Power supply for power failures, to better protect night time worship, Advent, Lent, Easter Vigil.
- Rainbow Flag for LGBTQ month to show solidarity and to demonstrate that we are a welcoming church.
- Fix Google Maps to show Lutheran Church of the Incarnation
- Integrate more with the Belfrey to get students interested in LCI
- Let's meet formally with Applegate to discuss lease renewal and LCI's need / desire to contact Applegate families to invite them to become involved in LCI. Among other things, we could discuss how the relationship is working from Applegate's perspective and what needs to change so Applegate leadership feels comfortable allowing Dan, Lindsay or others to personally contact its families at least annually.
- Applegate is a potential source of young families who spend a lot of time in the room where we have our family-friendly worship, Rooted. We also need to find out how the rent we charge compares with market rent for a preschool in Davis. (In West Sac, \$1.00 - \$1.25 / sf plus utilities is market rent for non-office, non-retail commercial space. How much of our utility cost is attributable to Applegate?).
- LCI's congregation is aging, attendance is slipping and the budget is feeling some pressure. Let's invite pastoral and lay leadership at DLC, St. Martins, the Belfry and perhaps other Protestant churches in Davis to talk about how they perceive their respective futures and how much cooperative ministries, shared expenses and shared staff are part of their vision. DLC Pastor Irwin has not been receptive to this kind of conversation in the past, but I don't believe we can afford to let that stop us from making the attempt as an investment in the future. We can still talk with the Belfry, St. Martins and perhaps others about this issue. We could also ask how much they are growing or shrinking and how they express their mission to the outside world to see if we can develop local "best practices".
- We've had a noticeable increase in attendance on the Sundays that include the Rooted service. We need to strengthen our process for recording and following up on the visitors who come to LCI, particularly for that service but in general. In addition to contact information, we might want to learn why they came, what if anything they are seeking, what about the difference in location and style caused them to attend and what it would take to get them to become more involved in LCI

Note: List of brainstorming ideas include suggestions received anonymously until Dec 9, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned by Congregation President Carol Huegli at 1:00 pm.