

*Voter's Assembly Meeting minutes approved by the
Board of Directors in July 2017*



Grace of God Evangelical Lutheran Church Voter's Assembly Meeting Minutes

Sunday, May 21, 2017
420 Hayward Ave. N.
Oakdale, MN 55128

- I. President Bruce Gilman called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.
- II. Opening Prayer and Devotion - Pastor Jon Marxhausen
- III. Acceptance of New Voters – Six new voters signed the membership book.
- IV. Roll Call
 - a. Sign-In Sheet was passed around, sixty-seven voting members were present.
 - b. Agenda was reviewed and we moved ahead to discuss new business first.
 - c. Pastor Marxhausen noted, among other points, that an extraordinary effort had been made to encourage members to be present for the meeting, and there had been an impressive response in the turnout of voting members. Pastor Marxhausen made a motion to suspend the rules, allowing a majority of the voting members present to make amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and to the By-Laws. The motion was seconded by Tom Schoenberg and passed unanimously.
- V. New Business
 - a. Proposed Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws

Bruce Gilman reviewed the proposed amendment to the Articles of Incorporation (see Handout #1). Jim Roth made a motion to approve the amendment as proposed. The motion was seconded by Franklin Hotzel and passed unanimously.

Bruce Gilman reviewed the proposed amendment to the By-Laws (see Handout #2). One of the proposed amendments changed the definition of a quorum from two-thirds of the voting membership to half of the voting membership. There was a discussion about the possibility of requiring a larger percentage of the quorum (perhaps two-thirds or three-fourths) to be in agreement in order to make future changes. The concern was that if only half the voting membership was present, and only half of them needed to agree, then changes could be enacted by as little as 25% of the overall voting membership. After some discussion, Bruce suggested that an additional change could be considered at a future discussion. Franklin Hotzel moved that the proposed amendments to the By-Laws be approved as presented. Errol Bartz seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

***Voter's Assembly Meeting minutes approved by the
Board of Directors in July 2017***

b. Election of Officers – Bruce Gilman

Bruce thanked the nominating committee for their work soliciting candidates. He reviewed the nominees for each position, and called for a motion. The motion was made, seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mike Lindemann, Vice President

Darla Senn, Secretary (Incumbent)

Paul Hartleben, Elder (Incumbent)

Errol Bartz, Elder (Incumbent)

Jenny Hanson, Board of Outreach Chairman

Roger Prigge, Board of Finance Chairman

VI. Reports

a. Pastor's Report – Pastor Jon Marxhausen

- i. Reviewed worship highlights and personal growth opportunities from the last year.
- ii. Reviewed the official acts for the year.

b. Committees:

i. Facilities Committee – Cami Hartleben

Windows have been professionally cleaned this year. Handicap accessible doors and door stops were installed. A new steam cleaner has been purchased to do the floors. A spring cleaning was planned for Monday, May 22nd.

ii. Fellowship Committee – Cindy Bartz

Sunday donations have provided treats and kept the kitchen stocked. They served 61 at the Seder Meal and a light breakfast was served on Easter morning. Summer picnics are coming up and they are still looking for hosts for June and August.

iii. Missions – Audrey Gillman

Reviewed the activities from the last six months and looked forward to projects coming up. Among other things, there will likely be a service week in July for Hope for the Journey Home. Anticipating a Dresser Build at Bridging this fall. Planning for a food drive at Thanksgiving again this year.

iv. Stewardship – Bob Koeritzer

The initial focus will be on 1) defining what stewardship means at Grace of God; 2) planning communication/education; 3) aligning with goals of the GOGEL Vision project. He reviewed a long list of signs of stewardship already happening at Grace of God. He also reviewed a list of future discussion topics. Finally he noted there was room for a couple more volunteers for the committee.

***Voter's Assembly Meeting minutes approved by the
Board of Directors in July 2017***

c. Boards

i. Elders – Errol Bartz

Pastor Micky Dobbins will lead services in June while Pastor Marxhausen is in Germany. Summer Sabbath dates have been set for June 7 & 28, July 12 & 26, August 9 & 23.

Errol noted that the number of voting members was confirmed as 110 after an audit of the membership book. The number was previously reported as slightly higher. He noted that the average Sunday attendance is slightly higher this year, likely due to an increase of family units.

ii. Education – Bruce Gilman (for Pam Fallert)

Bruce highlighted youth activities over the past calendar year. The Youth Mission Trip will be serving in St. Louis from July 29 to August 5, 2017. Friends Forever VBS will be August 15-17, 2017 and will be in the evenings this year from 6-8:00 p.m.

iii. Outreach / Fellowship – Sally Warren

Sally reviewed the areas of serving over the past year. She reviewed the goals for 2017 which include researching a new website platform, developing items to add to the Grace of God visitor mugs, continuing to increase community awareness through Fare For All, and in July they may be seeking donations for school supplies for the August Fare For All distribution.

iv. Treasurer and Finance – Nancy Prigge/Erik Benson

Reviewed the financial status through April 2017. Giving is exceeding year-to-date expenses and budget expenses are less than year-to-date plan. They reviewed the new financial metrics that are being reported in the worship folders each week.

v. Board of Directors – Bruce Gilman

The annual church financial audit will begin soon. Len McMorrow, Roxy Cleary and Mike Lindeman have agreed to do the audit work. The budget increased \$1,000 to cover Growth and Development for Pastor Marxhausen, but the overall budget remains lower than was originally approved by the congregation due to a decrease in the health care costs. The next voter's assembly meeting will be Sunday, December 10, 2017.

VII. Old Business

a. Vision Planning Update (see Handout #3)

Reviewed the Top 10 on the Vision Action Plan that have been completed and those that are in process. He also reviewed the ones that be focussed on next. There was a short list of "Just Do Its" that have also been completed, and a list of Longer Term items for ongoing consideration.

VIII. Matters of Individuals

IX. Adjournment / Prayer:

***Voter's Assembly Meeting minutes approved by the
Board of Directors in July 2017***

- a. Motion to adjourn. MMSP at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Darla Senn

Note: Copies of handouts will be made available upon request to the Secretary.

Members of the Board of Directors:

Bruce Gilman, President
Randy Henderson, Vice President
Darla Senn, Secretary
Errol Bartz, Board of Elders
Nancy Prigge, Board of Finance
Sally Warren, Board of Outreach
Erik Benson, Treasurer
Pam Fallert, Board of Education