

# Minutes for Congregational Meeting

January 22, 2023



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church  
Congregational Meeting  
January 22, 2023

## Welcome!

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| • Welcome   | David Papenhausen           |
| • Opening Prayer                                      | Pastor Katy McCallum Sachse |
| • Staff Recognition                                   |                             |
| • State of the Congregation and<br>Strategic Planning | Pastors                     |
| • Budget Review/Stewardship Appeal                    | Jeff Churchill/Pastor Katy  |
| • Property Team Update                                |                             |
| • Guatemala Trip Update                               |                             |
| • Closing Prayer                                      | Pastor Gina Herman          |
| • Adjournment   | David Papenhausen           |



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Meeting opened at 1:00 PM with greeting by Dave Papenhausen, Council President. (Meeting preceded by simple lunch in Fellowship Hall.)

# Staff Recognition



## Brad Paulson - Personnel Committee

- Outlined the basic activities of the Personnel Committee as hiring, personnel budget and procedures and honoring staff!
- At this meeting we are honoring staff who have been with Holy Spirit for more than 10 years. These include:
  - o Marjory Buchanan, Parish Administrator - 11years
  - o Becky Cole, Director of Children and Family Ministries - 16 years
  - o Mike Murphy, Manager of Church Kitchen - 19 years (out sick)
  - o Pastor Katy McCallum Sachse - 15 years
  - o Tammy Zarfos, Director of Confirmation - 16 years

# State of the Congregation



Pastor Katy spoke on the State of the Congregation.

- Looking back to our past meetings, in year 20-21, the word of the day was “forward”, in year 21-22 it was “resilient”. Both of these characteristics are still in place, but now, in year 22-23, our congregation is “*rising*”.
- Over the COVID months we had to give up our Wednesday night dinners, our retreats and educational programs, social gatherings, and worship music groups.
- In addition, many members re-evaluated their lives and chose to moved out of Kirkland and our congregation has had its share of deaths over the past years. We were separated from the comfort of large groups of friends and got out of the habit of gathering together weekly.
- In 20-21, we introduced the structure for a new 5 Point Strategic Plan, a proposed vision for our congregational future. Covid got in the way of putting meat on these bones. But in the next few months we will begin to build on these with fresh insights from the difficult past years. We can already see ways that we are already rising in these areas!

# HSLC Strategic Planning: Proposed Vision

## **Create connections**

We will create and nurture opportunities for individuals to make authentic, meaningful connections within our congregation as we seek to embody the love of God among one another.

## **Embrace worship**

We will embrace both modern and traditional practices of worship and prayer as we seek to follow Jesus' way of peace, transformation and hope.

## **Challenge Christianity**

We will challenge ourselves and our greater community to ask questions and to grow in our faith in a safe and welcoming environment committed to life-long learning.

## **Grow responsibly**

We will continue to strengthen and enhance the core elements of our infrastructure to sustain and enrich community life within and beyond the church walls

## **Pursue justice**

Alongside partners in the community, we will act boldly to seek justice for underserved and historically excluded populations through advocacy, support and compassion.

- Today we would like your input in this process by telling us "What really matters to you." Each of you has been given a white card. Please write one of the five vision areas that most matters to you. Then write an action idea that would be important to you.
- Those watching our live stream can email your input to Pastor Katy, Pastor Gina or any Council member.

On a last note, on Mar 6, 1974 the Holy Spirit building burned. We have a copy of the Eastside Journal article on this event. One quote stands out: "The [building] is destroyed but the church is still intact" How will you be a part of this rising?

# Property Committee



Doug Jacobson – Property Committee

Two calendar items to announce in preparation for Easter.:

- First is outside cleanup on Sat Mar 25. We need many hands for general work around the property. In particular, we hope to plant replacements for those plants that didn't make it through last year's weather!
- Second is Sunday Mar 26 after 11:00 service. We invite all to stay and spruce up the inside the building.

## Save the Date: Property Work Parties

### • **Saturday Morning March 24th**

- Pressure washing hard surfaces
- Spreading bark
- Planting new shrubbery
- Wood fence repair

### • **Sunday Afternoon March 25th**

- Wash windows interior
- Cleaning sanctuary chairs
- Clean high light bowls in sanctuary
- Floor maintenance in sanctuary



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- In addition, we have found some items that are no longer needed and would like to move them on to new homes.

## Surplus items looking for a home

- 3 metal filing cabinets
- Gas-powered lawn edger
- Wood shelf unit
- 3 sections of an aluminum ladder



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We plan to post pictures in Feb. If interested, please contact Doug Jacobson from the church office.

- And last – we have a facilities group – once known as “The Knitters”, now called “The Fix-it Folks” - that meets weekly throughout the year on Wednesday mornings. We get together at 9:30 AM for coffee and chat in the Fellowship Hall, do a bit of work around the property and often end with lunch out for those who can. 1–2-hour commitment. All are welcome to join!

# Guatemala Trip Blessing



Pastor Katy -

We will be sending a group of our church members for a short stay in Guatemala to work with Common Hope. This organization has been active for 35 years supporting children and families in multiple ways with the goal to have their children finish High School.

In supporting mission work, it is always our wish is that we gain as much as we give. Thank you for doing this work on our behalf. Listen, learn, build relationships and return to us safe.

## Closing Prayer

Dave Papenhausen: a big "Thank You" to Danielle Dadashi for all the support and work that went into live streaming our meeting!

Closing Prayer offered by Pastor Gina

Meeting Adjourned at 1:25 PM

