

Summary of the Council of Elders Meeting Minutes October 2022

The meeting was opened with prayer by Patty Dekker and a responsive liturgical reading by Pastor Andrew titled 'Begin a Purposeful Gathering' was read. The elders presented Pastor Julia Sandstrom with a gift basket to welcome her to TCC. Gail Mortenson led a devotional and time of prayer from the book "Pursuing God's Will Together".

Elders shared and reflected on how the roles and responsibilities of the elder board has changed and adapted during the past 2 1/2 years. Now with a full staff, the importance of focusing on congregational vitality along with the business of the church was affirmed. Financial Secretary, Rick Kamminga, presented a detailed analysis of giving units for Q3 and noted that giving units continue to decline. An updated Visionary Plan was also presented.

October Financial Report

- Total unrestricted gifts (general or operating fund) for September 2022 was \$68,972, or \$4,527 short of budget. Total unrestricted giving for the first nine months of 2022 is \$724,447, \$19,947 in excess of budget and \$42,212 or 5% below YTD giving September 2021.
- Giving Units for September YTD 2022 declined 13% from 2021, and 24% from 2020. The amount contributed to the General Fund per Giving Unit increased by 9% from 2021 and 7% from 2020.
- New Givers: There was one in September and 10 September YTD in 2022, compared to seven September YTD in 2021.
- Operating expenses for the first nine months of the year totaled \$881,580, or \$27,227 under budget, driven primarily by Payroll related and other expenses running favorably, offset by Properties expenses running high.
- Our YTD Operating Deficit (i.e. expenses exceeding revenue) stands at \$144,326 deficit vs the \$202,245 deficit budgeted through September.
- Cash available for operating purposes stands at \$273,473 as of September 30th, decreasing \$100,734 since the beginning of the year which is better than planned. Board Designated cash stands at \$315,201, a decrease of \$88,172 since the beginning of the year primarily reflecting the use of Facility Reserve funds for various capital projects.
- The mortgage has a balance of \$793,654 as of September 2022 compared to the \$993,500 when initiated in early 2020.

The meeting closed with Gail Mortenson leading the elders in a responsive closing prayer with thanks to God for His goodness to Thornapple.