

Gold Hill Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting – January 26, 2020

The annual meeting of Gold Hill Lutheran Church was called to order by Michael Lawson, President. He welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He also thanked all who provided food, set up and cleaned up for the potluck meal we enjoyed.

Pastor Trina Johnsten led the fifty one voting members and numerous guests in prayer.

Heatherlynn Meeks moved, Dorothy Anne Honeychurch seconded the approval of the minutes from last year's annual meeting. The motion passed.

President's Report: The report of the President is found on page 9 of the Annual Report. Mike emphasized that this year was a year of transition. He stated that the council members worked together to take care of all issues that came before them. He feels we will "continue on as a family in Christ".

Pastor's Report: Pastor Trina had no additional comments. Her report is found on page 6 of the Annual Report.

Financial Report: Revonda Stordahl reported that the income for 2019 was less than budgeted, but that expenses were also less than budgeted. We ended the physical year with a surplus of \$26,000.00. We had budgeted sending 8% of our offering to the Montana Synod, though we wanted to send 10%. Because of the surplus we were able to send the 10% to the Montana Synod. There were no questions on her report.

New Business: Curt Quist asked for Mike to explain the work that had been completed on the Membership Lists for Gold Hill. Mike explained that Pastor Trina provided a letter that she had used previously with other congregations and we found it very compassionate and understanding in reference to whether individuals wanted to remain members of Gold Hill, had moved, or wanted to be removed from our church roster. The letter was sent to individuals who had not attended a church service recently, had not received communion, or/and had not given to the church financially. We had no complaints from recipients. The office received letters from members asking to remain on the roster, asking for letters of transfer to other churches, or asking to be removed. We removed 133 members from our roster and transferred 3 members. We had approximately 10 individuals who at this time wished to remain on our roster and will be retained as associate members. Pastor Trina explained that an associate member was a member who we, the church, cared about and took care of when needed, but that the member does not have a vote and can not hold an office on the church council.

Jeanette Nielsen reported that there are about 42 members who provide help in the form of providing food and/or helping in the kitchen during funerals. If anyone would like to help and has not been contacted please let her know.

Old Business: Ron Gruss reported that the Trust Review Committee, created two years ago, has been meeting to streamline, review the purpose of the trust and trying to find a way to get money out to where it needs to go quicker. The committee will be meeting on January 27th at the church. He also commented that on page 21 the report for the Trust Committee should state for the year 2019-2020. It is printed incorrectly.

Dale Schultz reported that the Call Committee is moving along. When asked if there was a candidate he said he can not say.

Elections: Bob Brown announced that there are changes to the printed report and that Susan Stamp the chairman was unable to be at the meeting. Cheryl Neuhart added that under Outreach Ministry Dale Schultz is willing to serve and that Bob Brown will replace Bruce Graving as Flathead Bible

Camp Representative. Heatherlynn Meeks moved and Dorothy Tallon seconded that we accept the slate of officers as presented by the nominating committee. The motion passed.

The following were elected: Curt Quist for a two year term as Administration Director; Peggy Graving to a two year term as Secretary; Lynn Aniksdal for a two year term as Leadership Minister; Dale Schultz for a two year term as Outreach Minister; Mike Welker to a five year term on the Trust Committee; Ginger DeWitt to a three year term on the Audit Committee; and Bob Brown and Julie Corbin to one year terms as Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp representatives. Jerry Aaker, Mark Bond, Ann Drew, Peggy Probasco, Nancy Rowe, and Ken Stamp were elected as the nominating committee for one year. Our delegates to the 2020 Montana Synod Assembly are Mike and Annette Lawson.

Proposed Budget: Revonda directed us to pages 28-29 – right hand column to look at the proposed budget for 2020. We budgeted for less income and less in expenses hoping that we can meet this goal next year. The budget has a deficit of \$10,950, but the council is comfortable with this due to the surplus from last year. We have budgeted the full 10% to the MT Synod.

Bob Brown stated that it does not take long when you have a full time Pastor and have to pay their insurance and their retirement through Portico to go through a surplus like we have. We should not feel or have the “illusion” that we are rich because we have a surplus. It is unusual for us to have a surplus and when we have a full-time pastor things could change quickly.

Curt Quist moved, Marshal Cook seconded and it was approved to accept the budget for 2020.

Bob Brown thanked Jerry Aaker for serving as the Outreach Minister for the past two years.

The meeting was closed following the Lord’s Prayer led by Pastor Trina Johnsten.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peggy Graving, Secretary