**RLC Council Minutes November 19, 2015**

Present: Dave Hofeldt, Jeff Johnson, Georgia Nygaard, Kevan Moultan, Jim Stark, Vanessa Anderson, Jake VonDelinde, Heidi George

Absent: Sara Mohn, Heidi George

Pastors + Staff: Sara Spohr, Laurel Hofeldt, Dave Booms

Call to order: Dave Hofeldt

Opening Prayer: Pastor Sara

Agenda Review: Dave Hofeldt

Minutes Approval: Jeff Johnson

It was agreed that, since minutes are being approved at Google Docs there would not be further need for minute approval at council meetings.

Financial Update: Laurel Hofeldt

Laurel presented the updated financial report. At this point in year (prior to Christmas), budget expects to have expenses exceeding receipts by about $50,000 in general budget. We are just a bit further behind that, or about $6800 behind budget. Number of attributable giving units shows decline to previous year.

Stewardship: Jeff Johnson

Jeff reviewed the “rough” outline of his Ask Presentation and expressed his gratitude to Trupti and Sara for their input.

Update on Gifts Policy: Dave Hofeldt

Endowment Committee currently has a policy for accepting restricted gifts to the Endowment Fund, but there currently isn’t a written policy governing other gifts in which donors would like to designate that the funds be spent for a particular cause. Restricted gifts can come in response to special requests (e.g. Tanzania, FMSC, flowers), and sometimes from individual donors. Issue is balance – want to encourage giving, but don’t want general budget to fall short in the face of restricted gifts. Need to manage wording surrounding the restrictions such that future spending can meet the wishes/intent of the donor and yet is not overly restrictive such that the money might not get fully utilized. Finance committee has started to look into policies from other area churches of similar size and will attempt to come up with a draft.

Summary of exit interview with Steve Molin: Dave Hofeldt

Exec Committee had an exit interview with Pastor Molin; also present were previous RLC President Kris Olsen and Sister Noreen from the St. Paul Synod. It was agreed that Pastor Molin provided an insightful and constructive exit interview. He outlined his impressions of the congregation and staff when he first came. He discussed the congregational accomplishments and made constructive comments on how the congregation/council/committees may better move forward. He also noted that Hot Stove meetings would be a great time for the congregation to gather and discuss community related issues. This was well accepted by council and further discussion should happen with Pastor Lauren to this regard.

Staff Updates: Pastor Sara reviewed the November ministry schedule

Adjourn