

**ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MINUTES - APRIL 21, 2024**

Date: April 21, 2024	Location: St. Mark's Church & Zoom Virtual Meeting
Time Started: 11:41 AM	Time Ended: 12:14 PM

1. Quorum confirmed with 67 members attending.
2. Opening Devotion
3. Approval of AGM Agenda
MSC CM-2024-01 That the agenda be approved.
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a) Minutes of 2023 AGM (for information only)
 - b) Special Congregational Meeting – December 10, 2022
MSC CM-2024-02 That the minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting of December 10, 2003 be approved.
5. Secretary's Report
MSC CM-2024-03 That the actions taken by the Congregational Council in 2023 be approved as presented.
6. Pastor's Report

Pastor Zsófi highlighted two points of feedback she received in reference to reported timekeeping and congregation care/visitation. She indicated that the metric timekeeping included in her report does not accurately reflect the true amount and often undermines it, and gave an example of end of life care. She recognized Reverend Ron Long for his many years of devoted service to Congregational Care and Visitation which has been a longstanding important ministry established at St. Mark's. She indicated she is working on adhering to her commitment to increased visitation she made the previous year. In an effort to personally connect with parishioners and to get to know one another and herself, she asked for members to self-select and offer to be hosts of a small group gathering with her and to spend time talking and sharing thoughts about what the future of St. Mark's could look like.
7. Chair's Report

8. Director of Music Ministry Report

9. a) Program Committees

- i. Adult Education
- ii. Children's Ministry
- iii. Congregational Care and Community Outreach
- iv. Property
- v. Social Ministry
- vi. Children's Education
- vii. Worship
- viii. Youth and Young Adult

b) Other Reports

- i. Ministry to Shut-ins
- ii. Saturday Breakfast Meetings
- iii. Lutheran Urban Ministry
- iv. MNO Synod Office

10. Finance Report

The PowerPoint Presentation and discussion included the following: the significant move away from traditional envelopes and passing an offering plate to PAD (pre authorized debit), which presently accounts for 75% of all offerings; the anticipated budgeted deficit of \$38,000 was thankfully less at \$23,000 in 2023; the deficit for 2023 could have increased to \$30,000 if an invoice for an extra cost of betterments of \$7500 was included but instead which will be reflected in the 2024 books; as accumulated cash reserves are drawn down to address deficits, the unencumbered cash/investment reserves in 2023 are \$98,534.96, down from \$120,668.79 in 2022; the remittance to Synod this year was \$30,000 as opposed to \$40,000 remitted in 2022; and, there was a net zero cost to our staff expense due to the office administrator's position being vacant for part of 2023 and in that interim, filled by a volunteer who generously offered her time.

An update on the 2024 First Quarter Financial Position advised that general offerings are down 5% from 2023, and the operating loss Year-to-date is approximately \$7,000.

11. Audit Committee Report

MSC CM-2024-04 That the Audit Committee Report on the 2023 Financial Statements be approved.

12. Nominating Committee Report

Nels Kristenson and Marijus Timmerman are the nominees for the four vacant positions on the Congregational Council.

Ed Mann is the nominee to represent St. Mark's Lutheran Church at the Lutheran Urban Ministry (LUM) Annual General Meeting.

13. Elections

a) Congregational Council

The Chair declared Nels Kristenson and Marijus Timmerman elected by acclamation.

b) LUM AGM Representative

MSC CM-2024-05 That Ed Mann be appointed as delegate to the 2024 Annual Meeting of Lutheran Urban Ministry (LUM).

14. Enabling Motion re Approval of Minutes

MSC CM-2024-06 That the Congregational Council be given authority to approve the minutes of the Congregational Annual General Meeting held on April 21, 2024.

Adjournment