

First Evangelical Church
Minutes for Annual Congregational Meeting
May 21, 2023

- 1) Introduction and Welcome: Hal Stanley, Chairman of the Congregation.
- 2) Call to order: Quorum declared.
- 3) Opening prayer by Hal Stanley.
 - a) Welcome
 - b) Qualifications for voting
 - i) Member of church, of at least 18-years old
 - ii) If not a member, then encouraged to join the Discover First Evan class and become a member.
Next class is June 25th.
- 4) Proxy Votes – Ralph Hughes and Jim Graham collected proxies and Issued ballots.
- 5) Deacon and Elder Slate – The slate was present to the congregation.
 - a) Deacons:
 - David Coats
 - Mike Fergus
 - Sam Hezlep
 - Lee Howell
 - Bill Granger
 - Jonathan Klassy
 - Moses Kute
 - b) Session Elders
 - Mickey Bowen
 - Joel Scoggins
 - John Touliatos
 - Non-Sitting:
 - *John Main
 - *Brian Ward
- 6) Mission Board Report & Members Election
 - a) Mission Board Report by Scott Arnwine.

“Reaching the Least Served People.” Below are some highlights in Missions:

 - First Evan supports 27 missionaries or missionary families.
 - A successful Global Missions Conference was held this February.
 - Restarting short term missions including an overseas trip with our youth.
 - Special thanks to Jim Pendleton and his staff.

Floor opened for discussion – none.

A motion made to accept the Missions Report, report accepted on a voice vote.
 - b) Mission Board Slate (from committee)
Scott Arnwine

Marie Thompson
Bernie Housholder
Jordan Carpenter
Christopher Marino
Hal Stanley opened the floor for discussion.
Slate accepted by voice vote.

- 7) Presentation of Missions Budget by Scott Arnwine – from committee
 - a) Scott summarized the four ways to give to Missions and reported on the current budget.
 - i) Budget giving is 1% below the 2022-2023 giving, totaling \$333,300.
 - ii) Pass thru is ~\$980,000.
 - iii) The new budget is held at \$330,300.
 - b) Floor opened for discussion on the mission's financial report.
 - c) Motion made to accept the report, accepted by voice vote.

- 8) Treasurers Report and Proposed Budget by Rob Westmoreland, Treasurer.
 - a) 2022-2023 Treasurers Report
 - i) Giving July-April exceeded all years. Ministry fund is at an all-time high at \$2.72-MM.
 - ii) A thank you to those giving.
 - iii) Motion made to approve the Treasurers Report, passed by voice vote.
 - b) 2023-2024 Proposed Budget – from committee
 - i) Expense budget is mostly as previously budgeted, up 2.3%, totaling \$3.38MM.
 - ii) The increase in the budget results from the added cost of security, increase in the cost of food service, and staff increases.
 - (1) Floor opened for discussion - No questions asked.
 - iii) Motion made to accept the 2023-2024 Budget and the Budget accepted by voice vote.

- 9) Report from the Pastoral Search Committee by Eric Furman.
 - a) The search committee was recognized.
 - b) Progress to date and progress report – Pathway to Pastor Next.
 - i) Candidates canvased from nine seminaries as well as an on-line portal and local network referrals.
 - ii) Eric reviewed the process for reviewing applicants through the two subcommittees, Peace and Grace. The goal is to recommend a candidate.
 - iii) With the recommendation of Session, the congregation will be given the opportunity to vote.
 - iv) Data:
 - (1) 366 applications and referrals reviewed.
 - (2) 107 application and 25 referrals in 2023.
 - (3) 7 applicants given serious consideration.
 - (4) One applicant is in the final stages.
 - c) Eric explained the expectation of "Candidate Season."
 - d) The committee continues to pray and seek God's guidance in the pastoral search.

10) Slate vote results were announced:

- a) Deacon slate accepted.
- b) Elder slate accepted.

11) Election of new Chairman and Vice Chairman

- a) Hal Stanley displayed Article I, Section 6.
- b) The floor was opened for nominations for Chairman, Preston Klink nominated.
- c) Motion made to close nominations, second and passed on voice vote.
- d) Preston Klink voted to the position of Chairman by voice vote.
- e) The floor was opened for nominations for Vice Chairman, Jordan Bernardini nominated.
- f) Motion to close nominations made, second and passed by voice vote.
- g) Jordan Bernardini voted to the position of Vice Chairman by voice vote.

12) Motion sought to close the meeting.

- a) Motion made and passed on voice vote.
- b) Preston Klink led closing prayer.

13) A time of fellowship was had in the Fellowship Hall.