

Augsburg Immanuel Lutheran Church Congregational Vacancy Call Meeting September 8, 2019

On Sunday, September 8, 2019, a congregational meeting was held in the church sanctuary to discuss placing a vacancy call to a prospective pastor for the church. Chairman Mo Schukar called the meeting to order. Pastor Speers led the group in devotion and prayer.

Those present were asked if there were any people present that wished to become voting members of the congregation. The following list of people stepped up to become new voting members:

Twana Bauer, Judy Wasmuth, Charles Wasmuth, Mandi Austin, Ruth Ann Moyer, John Moyer, Janet Williams, Matthew Sasse, Sarah Sasse, Colleen Wefer, Deborah Harmeier

A motion was made to accept the new voting members, seconded and approved.

The elders were named to be the tellers of the election.

Jerry Schukar spoke for the elders explaining voting rules and procedures. Placing a vacancy call requires a two thirds majority of votes before the potential selection could be called. There were 30 voting members present. The vote would be done by written ballot.

A question was submitted to the elders concerning the expense of moving a pastor to Augsburg. While that is indeed an expense, the elders urged the voters to not let that weigh very heavily on their choice for a call recipient. Other factors for consideration are more important when selecting a potential pastor.

Prior to the voting Pastor Speers led all present in a prayer for guidance in our decision.

The ballot vote was held with Pastor Jeffery Dock receiving 24 votes. This is clearly a two thirds majority of voters present. Pastor Speers then made a telephone call to verify that Pastor Dock was indeed interested in considering a call to Augsburg. He responded that he was, and the meeting continued.

A call document must now be completed by the elders to be presented to Pastor Dock. The following considerations were presented to the voters:

Salary recommendation: Following district guidelines for salary, pay will be entered at \$48,438.00 per year plus parsonage and utilities. A motion was made, seconded and the recommendation was approved.

Vacation: Following district guidelines, a recommendation of four weeks of vacation was made. A motion was made to accept the recommendation, seconded, and approved.

Insurance and retirement: A recommendation was made to offer the same package as we had with Pastor Frazee with the following exception. The deductible will be increased from \$500.00 per year to \$1,200.00 per individual and \$2,400.00 per family annually. A motion was made to accept the recommendation, seconded, and approved.

Mileage, moving costs, and continuing education: The following recommendations were made in these categories. Mileage would be reimbursed at the posted IRS rate. Moving expenses for the pastor would be paid by the congregation. Continuing education would be considered on a case by case basis. A motion was made to accept these recommendations, seconded, and approved.

A motion was made for a standing vote. The vote was unanimous.

The elders were released from the teller duties.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and approved.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Steven R. Hickerson