**Date: Monday, November 18, 2024: St. Mark’s Congregation Council**

**Time: 7:00 – 8:30 PM**

**Facilitator: Chris Lewis**

 **Attendees: Pastor Karla Halvorson, Pastor Alicia Saenz, Chris Lewis, Karl Larsen, Patti Villa, Luz Garcia, Melissa Hernandez, Gerd Pfeiffer, David Hernandez, Krystina Torres, Dennis Coughlin, Dorothy Geier, Margarita Alvarez**

 **Excused: Bruce Mansfield**

**TOPIC COUNCIL MOTIONS**

**Financial Report**

**M/S/P to receive Financial Report. Vote was unanimous**

**Minutes of this Meeting**

**M/S/P to accept the Minutes of this meeting. Vote was unanimous.**

**November Church Council Summary**

1. “Microsoft Translator” app for Council Meetings enables live translation for all participants. All congregation members are encouraged to download and use this free app on a mobile device (phone or tablet) for multi-lingual worship services, to see live translation of any other language into your language. If you need assistance, please stop by the media tech booth before or after services for help.

 2. Upcoming Events:

* Service of Comfort and Hope: A spiritual program for end-of-life transitions, available the in January.
* Christmas Pageant in collaboration with our ELCA sister congregation, Glory Lutheran: December 8, 10 AM, with youth participation and a luncheon. Glory donated $250 toward the luncheon costs. (Try out Microsoft Translator)
* Posada at the Border: December 15, 12:30 PM; tour of Chicano Park, no passports required. RSVP by December 1.
* First Communion classes: Weekly classes on Thursdays; tailored sessions for new Bible learners.

3. Rummage Sale Success: Minimal costs and strong participation made it highly successful.

4. Member Care & Community Outreach

* Christmas cards and gifts planned for December 1 delivery.
* Continued attention to absent or in-need members.

5. Media Tech: We are seeking another technology/electronics enthusiast to join our Media Tech team on Sunday mornings. Since Andrew resigned to get on with his life, we are short an expert in technology and electronics to help keep our equipment working effectively and our services running smoothly.

6. Financial and Operational Updates

 a. October Financial Update:

* October marked 83% of the year
* Total income = 80% (not including Campus Revitalization donations)
* Total expenses at end of October, 84% of budget
* YTD: This is exactly where we were at the end of October, 2023.

 b. 2025 Budget Planning:

* Minimal increases to focus on completing ongoing projects.
* Pacifica Synod support expected for Hispanic Ministries.

 c. Campus Improvements

* Asbestos Abatement: Estimated $20–30K.
* Concrete Work & Plumbing: Adjustments underway; cost-saving measures implemented.

 d. Safety and Security

* Security protocol training completed; more volunteers needed for Sunday services.
* Security cameras delivered; installation pending.

7. Volunteer Opportunities and community outreach.