

Lutheran Church of the Cross  
Saturday, January 25, 2025

Chair: Michael Coughlin  
Facilitator: Don Storch  
Treasurer: Johann Kuntze

## **Record of Discussion- PROCEEDS WORKSHOP**

37 Participants

Opening Prayer: Pastor Lyndon Sayers  
Land Acknowledgement: Rosalene Saleski

### **Part 1: Introduction and Expectations**

**Michael** convened the workshop by noting this is not a special congregational meeting. Nor is it a decision meeting. This meeting will provide church council with direction in preparing a budget for presentation at the 2025 AGM in March.

Michael note that printed materials were provided at each table which would be referenced during the workshop.

He noted that BC Housing Authority and the City of Saanich have delayed the final sale of the property until September. This will require an extension of the purchase agreement on the property. A motion to address this situation will be brought to the AGM. In the meantime insurance on Luther House will continue.

**Johann Kuntze** gave an overview of the church's financial state, including the current deficit of \$40,000.

LCC's current mortgage is up for renewal in March and will continue until the sale is completed and the monies related to the sale are received.

We need to maintain consistent offerings to ensure we achieve our vision and priorities.

### **Part 2: Setting Priorities for Use of Funds**

With this context provided to the participants, the discussions were divided into two parts on how we might allocate funds: asset and non-assets expenditures.

#### **A. Use of Asset related funds, primarily from sale of property to Luther Court**

Participants were asked: What is your thinking about the expenditure of the proceeds of the sale of property to Luther Court? Generally, these funds were seen as applicable to our assets and that the expenditures should be on items that would enhance, improve, extend our current assets such as the building and its infrastructure.

Everyone present was asked to indicate their 3 top preferences from the list generated at the end of the meeting held in December 2024. Other items have been added since, and a couple were added at today's meeting. The results of the preferences were as follows. The numbers following the item indicated the number of "votes" the item received.

1. Pay off existing mortgage (29)
2. Set up Heritage Fund for facility repairs/upgrades/replacement of equipment and appliance (17)
3. Finish Lower level, multi-purpose rooms, shower and bathroom, music room, senior center, youth activity space, storage (16)
4. upgrade server- new fridge, utility sink (12)
5. replace windows in upper hall (9)
6. New/upgraded sound system (8)
7. Green projects, heat pump, solar panels (8)
8. Replace roof (6)
9. Invest to create an income stream to provide regular income for the congregation (5)
10. Renovate upper hall, make it more attractive, storage (2)
11. Landscape with native plants (0)
12. Start new housing project, think big (0)
13. Don't do anything that would constrain the congregation in the future (0)
14. Earthquake proof older building (0)
15. Cover round window in sanctuary (0)
16. Expand parking, buy land to build 2 story parkade (0)
17. Improve soundproofing between floors. (0)

#### **B. Use of non-asset funds, primarily the Eva Baird bequest**

Participants were asked to indicate their top 3 expenditure allocations for non-asset related activities, programs and achieving of our vision and priorities:

1. Harmony Project, Music program for children (15)
2. Music, increase Kantor salary (13)
3. Scholarships to support seminary students (12)
4. Refugee sponsorship (12)
5. Add/replenish memorial fund (12)
6. Finance small projects to benefit us all now (11)
7. Additional staff, deacon/parttime pastor (11)
8. Support existing ministries before taking on new ones (6)
9. Create fund to support choral scholars and special music (6)
10. Drop in café for congregation and neighborhood (2)
11. Expand children's ministry buy more toys (1)
12. Support new ministries (0)
13. Pre-school and day care program (0)
14. Help the elderly attend church (0)
15. Enhance campus ministry (0)
16. Bring back fall and Christmas dinners (0)

The workshop adjourned following a prayer by Pastor Lyndon.

Thanks to Craig for transcribing these notes and to everyone who helped organize and facilitate the conversation, including offering hospitality. And thanks to everyone who participated.