

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
in Lake Worth

January 24, 2019 1(2)

REPORT of the FUTURE COMMITTEE 2018
to the Annual Congregation Meeting on March 10, 2019

At the Annual Congregation Meeting March 11, 2018 the 2018 Financial Working Group was established to provide a proposal for measures to ensure the future of this congregation.

The Group adopted a name of the Future Committee 2018.

The elected members of the Committee are Jouko Jaakkola, John Konkola, Peter Makila, Robert Morgan and Olli Ojala, pastor Mia Hagman being an ex officio member as in all the Congregation Committees.

The drainage of the old savings of the church goes on. In 2018 the expenses exceeded the income over sixty thousand dollars.

The opinion of the Committee is, the first major step to stop the downhill slide of the church finances should be the sale of the church building and thus to cut the annual expenses by several tens of thousands of dollars.

Our tenant, the local Spanish church has expressed an interest of becoming the owner of the building. The Committee has had tentative discussions with the representatives of the Spanish church. They are willing to give a remarkable down payment and pay the rest of the purchase price with monthly installments with interest in the coming twenty years. St. Andrew's would continue using the church as a tenant.

This measure alone will not guarantee a long term survival of St. Andrew's but it would be the first major step into the future of this congregation of Finnish relations. It would give our congregation a possibility to continue our worship in a church so dear to us.

The recommendation of this Committee is that this Committee is authorized to negotiate the sale and partial lease back of the church building and the parking lot to the Spanish Church, or to a third party in case an agreement with the Spanish Church cannot be reached. We also recommend that the Church Council is authorized to with majority vote of all the Council members approve the sale and partial lease back contract of the church building and the parking lot.

This Committee will be dissolved at the approval or disapproval of the contract by the Council. The Committee emphasizes the importance of the Council's constant efforts in taking further cost cutting and income increase measures.