

**River Table Minutes**  
**River of Hope Lutheran Church ELCA Hutchinson, Minnesota**  
**Saturday, December 7, 2024 Retreat 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**  
**Hutchinson Event Center**

Present: Mary Royer, Vice-President; Arlyn DeBruyckere, Treasurer; Pastor Hans Peterson; Dave Fischer, Patricia Paulsen, Jim Schaefer, Kay Halstrom, Geoff Davis

Absent: None

Opening: Devotion and Building a Sacred Altar

Approved Amended River Table Minutes of November 12, 2024 m/s/p

Accept the candidates for offices of the congregation m/s/p

President: Mary Royer

Vice-President: Jim Schaefer

Secretary: Patricia Paulsen

Treasurer: Arlyn DeBruyckere

Review of the Constitution.

Discussion on the role of the River Table and of River Table members serving as representatives to other tables. We heard about some models used in business that may be helpful to us.

Commit to proceed with Global Refuge's Circle of Welcome m/s/p

The initial commitment requires a core group of people willing to assist a new American immigrant family on their resettlement journey into the community of Willmar. It also requires we raise and donate financial assistance of \$8000, which is intended primarily for rental expenses. There is interest from our membership in both aspects. We have a member who will match contributions from our congregation up to \$10,000, and some contributions have already been received.

Joint Meeting: At 1 p.m., we welcomed members of the Vision Table to a brainstorming session. Ron Johnson, Rachel Stearns, and Dale Brandsoy were in attendance. Many items mentioned aimed to be active in ways that serve, build relationships, and lead to spiritual growth. The Vision Table was encouraged to seek ways to get feedback from the congregation regarding future needs and opportunities.

Close with song and prayer.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 6 p.m. Hutchinson Event Center

Submitted by Patricia Paulsen

