

Church Council Meeting Minutes June 10, 2010

In Attendance: Pastor Baumgartner, Joy Brown, Joan Jarombek, Florence Matadi, Terry O'Keefe, Ron Peterson, Peter Solberg, Christena Watson and June Wendt.

Devotions led by June Wendt.

Minutes of May 13, 2010 Meeting: A motion was made by Pastor Baumgartner and seconded by June to accept the minutes of the May 13th Council Meeting. The motion passed.

Pastor's Report: During the last forums Nuwoe Davis, her husband Anshawn and father Abraham gave two presentations on the history of Liberia and the courageous actions by Liberian women of faith to end the recent civil war. The last forum until September was on the topic of Healing Touch Spiritual Ministry. We had a fabulous Pentecost celebration on May 23rd. The choir ended this season by singing or leading four songs. At last count 22 persons signed their name as a way of declaring their participation in this exercise of weekly Bible reading that we are doing as a congregation. Thanks for your participation and support. There was a training event for Healing Touch Spiritual Ministry at Galilee on Tuesday, June 8th. Florence shared her experience with the council describing the experience as a wonderful, helpful way to connect with your mind and spirit. All performance reviews have been completed. Pastor Ralph would like to thank Ron and Christena for attending the annual Synod Assembly. Pastor Ralph was elected to the Consultation Committee of the Saint Paul Area Synod. There are remaining funds from the 50th anniversary celebration. The council will determine how those funds should be used. Some suggestions have been the general fund and pay off the steeple and sound system. Pastor Ralph thanks us for allowing him the opportunity for the continuing education course he just took entitled "Jesus and the Gospels: A Crash Course on Recent Biblical Scholarship That's Worth Knowing". Pastor Ralph and Katherine will be on vacation June 14th - June 27th at the North Shore and July 19th - August 1st on their annual mission trip to Guatemala. He has arranged for Pastor Juli Thompson to fill in on the Sundays he will be gone during both of these trips. Pastor Gary Dreier of Christ Lutheran Church on Capitol Hill in St. Paul will be available for emergencies while he is gone on both trips.

Financial Secretary Report: Mary was not at the meeting but did supply her report for our review. May pledged giving was under by \$1,527.45 and pledges given are under \$52.58 for YTD.

Treasurer's Report: Given by Peter. Most areas are staying within the budget which is good but the question remains of how to generate more income. June will have a couple large payments. A \$1000 insurance payment is due which was part of the budget. There is a \$900 copier payment due for an overage usage charge. This was not in the budget and Pastor Ralph is looking into what brought the usage so high. During previous council meetings, it was decided to have the cost of the lawn care service looked into. What has been done about that? Joan made a motion to accept the secretary's and treasurer's Reports. Motion was seconded by Joy. The motion was passed.

Savings Report - No report was provided. Peter did indicate some money that came in for Altar Guild and Bell Choir will be moved to their savings accounts. There have really not been many changes in the savings accounts.

Team Reports: *Mission* - Given by Joyce and Joan. Our Benevolence is given to different groups that someone has a tie or connection to. The places given to are reviewed and in May

the committee decided not to support Naomi House, Tasks Unlimited and the Center for Victims of Torture. The \$700 that would have gone there has been designated for the GLOW program. Rev. Jack Carty died in April, 2010 and the JC Prison Ministries will end. The \$500 that would have been gone there will be saved for emergencies.

GLOW - Given by Christena. June 16th will be the last GLOW for 3 weeks. There will be a community meal and a magician for that night.

Other Business: *Constitution Changes* - Ron made a motion to submit the corrections/changes to our Constitution per the recommendations of the Churchwide Assembly that Miriam discussed with the council at the May meeting. Joy seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Daily Bread - Ron has started a blog for those participating in the weekly Bible reading to share their thoughts. What are some other opportunities that we can do to share our thoughts and feelings while participating in the readings? Some ideas shared are house meetings, special summer forums, meeting during GLOW and the Thursday Bible study.

Staff Changes - Cindy Einertson has resigned as church secretary. Sharell Babin is filling in until a permanent secretary is hired. When Pastor Ralph gets back from vacation we will start looking for a permanent secretary. A suggestion was made to hire the secretary from outside our congregation.

Budget Responsibilities - At the last council meeting Ron shared the "Budget Responsibility" chart with the council members. He has since sent copies to those who are involved with the different committees so they will know who their contacts are regarding the funds available.

Building Use Fees - The fees for building usage need to be reviewed. The amount being charged to non-members is too low. At the next meeting Pastor Ralph will bring suggestions for the fees to the next meeting. The council gave Pastor Ralph permission to use his discretion if something comes up before the next meeting.

Air Conditioner warrantee - At the last council meeting it was suggested that more information be gathered about the air conditioner warrantee. Anshawn will share the findings at the next meeting as he was not at this meeting.

Handbell Director - Jo Ann met an individual who showed interest in directing the handbells. A group will be meeting with her and Pastor Ralph will meet with her when he returns from vacation. It sounds like the funds already budgeted will work.

Coming Schedule:

- Communion Assistants
- June 13 - Peter (Joyce) & Christena
- June 20 - Joan, Ron & Peter or Joyce
- June 27 - None
- July 4 - Christena & Florence
- July 11 - Terry & Ron

Next Meeting - August 12, 2010 6:30 p.m. There will be no official July meeting but a brainstorming meeting regarding the growth initiative ideas will be planned.

- Devotions, Luke 5 - Florence
- Drinks & Treats - Terry (let Joy know if you can't bring treats)

Christena made a motion to adjourn. June seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Joy Brown, Secretary