

**Galilee Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
Minutes of Church Council Meeting  
April 14, 2011

**Attendance:**

Council members present: Pastor Ralph Baumgartner, Paula Brown, Karen Groebner, Lorrie Hayne, Joan Jarombek, Elaine Mundt, Carl Nelson, Ron Peterson, Dan Simundson and Abraham Watson. Others present: Steve Groebner, Treasurer.

President Ron Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Carl led devotions on Luke 13.

**Minutes of the March 10, 2011 Council Meeting:**

Upon correction of some spelling errors, Abe made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2011 meeting of the church council. Paula seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

**Pastor's Report:**

Pastor Ralph provided a report on his activities for the month of March. A copy of his report is attached as Exhibit A. Ralph reported that on April 17<sup>th</sup>, Javier and Sara González and their children Sofia and Nicolás will become members of Galilee. Nicolás will also be baptized that day. Upon a motion by Ralph and a second by Lorrie, the council approved accepting the González family as members of Galilee.

Pastor Ralph also circulated a Thank You letter from Bishop Peter Rogness of the St. Paul Area Synod thanking Galilee for its financial support.

**Financial Secretary's Report:**

In Mary's absence, Ron presented the Financial Secretary's Report for the month of March 2011. Regular offering for the month was \$143 below the pledged amount and for the year-to-date period was approximately \$1,000 below pledged levels. Loose offering was nearly \$900 below budget for the month and \$2,400 for the three month period.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Steve reported that the conversion to the new ICON software is completed and his reports for the month of March have been generated from the new system. For the month of March, general fund income was below budgeted levels by \$922 and for the year-to-date period was below budget by \$1,819. Expenses for March were below budget by \$722 but for the year-to-date period were over budget by \$1,784. After taking into account transfers to the general fund from designated funds, the general fund has a deficit of \$4,000 through March. The council discussed the fact that receipts in the month which includes Easter (April this year) are generally higher than other months and the hope is the deficit will be reduced by the end of April. The status of the general fund will be reviewed carefully at the May meeting to determine if any actions are required.

Upon motion by Karen and a second by Lorrie, the council approved the Financial Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Report.

**Team Updates:**

Written updates from the Property, Finance/Stewardship, GLOW, Community/Fellowship, Mutual Ministry and Staff Teams were circulated and discussed. Following are some of the items which were discussed:

- The Spring Clean up day will be Saturday April 30 beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- The shingle roof on the southwest side of the church will need to be repaired/replaced. George Johnson has just received an estimate of \$9,000 to \$10,000 for the necessary work. The repairs will likely need to be completed later this year.
- The GLOW schedule for the spring and summer has been set. GLOW will resume on April 27<sup>th</sup>.
- VBS will be August 1<sup>st</sup> through the 4<sup>th</sup> beginning each day at 5:30 p.m.
- The "Big Event" which is intended to attract 200+ people from the neighborhood, was scheduled for the evening of August 5<sup>th</sup>. However, the Pastor leaves on vacation that morning so the event will likely be moved to August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- The church picnic had been scheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup>; however, that is the same weekend as the Men's retreat. The Fellowship Committee will check to see if the picnic can be moved to May 22.
- The Mutual Ministry Committee has been re-established. Dell Sailer has agreed to Chair this committee.
- A revised job description for the church secretary is being developed and the search for a new secretary will begin soon.
- Elly Peterman will be graduating from Luther Seminary this spring so options for a Family and Community Ministry Coordinator are being considered. We may consider working with other congregations in the area to combine resources for this position.

**Old Business:**

Voucher preparation:

Steve presented a newly designed voucher for approving expenditures. The instructions for preparing the form and the required approvals are printed on the back of the form. Lorrie mad a motion to adopt using the new voucher for disbursements. The motion was seconded by Joan and approved by the council.

Memorial Committee:

The Memorial Committee is in the process of drafting a Memorials Policy. A draft of the policy was circulated to the council. The policy outlines how the committee will communicate with the family and how gifts will be recorded, acknowledged and spent.

Ron made a motion to approve a proposal from the Memorial Committee with respect to the Kitchen Fund which has a balance of \$1,877 as of March 31, 2011. The proposal is to use up to \$500 to install an automatic coffee maker in the library, retain a balance of \$500 in the fund and transfer the remaining balance to the general fund. In the future any monies received from the use of Galilee for funerals, etc. will be deposited into the general fund and expenses related to such activities will be disbursed from the general fund. The motion was seconded by Ralph and approved by the council.

Update on Audit Report:

Ron reported that virtually all of the items from the audit report had been completed or implemented. He circulated a summary of how each of the matters was addressed. The only things to be completed are minor (for example, putting a copy of the video of the church property in the safe deposit box). Ralph moved that the council acknowledge that the audit matters identified have been resolved and thank the audit committee for their work. Ron seconded the motion and it was approved by the council.

**New Business:**

Ron provided a brief update on Galilee's top five goals for 2011.

**Coming Schedule:**

Communion assistants are as follows:

April 17	Dan, Lorrie and Ron
April 21 (Maundy Thursday)	Abe and Elaine
April 24	Joan and Paula
May 1	Carl and Mary
May 8	Abe, Dan and Paula

The next council meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on May 12. Mary will lead devotions on Luke 14 and Dan will provide refreshments.

Upon motion which was duly seconded, the council approved adjournment at approximately 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carl Nelson, Secretary

**Pastor's Report**  
**April 14, 2011**

**Congregational updates:**

1. **Midweek Lenten Services.** Yesterday we concluded these services, which have been relatively well attended (35 to 50 people at each service). The theme was "What's Up, God?" which leads us to discern how God is present and active through Galilee's ministries. We thank those who made presentations each Wednesday, including Ron Peterson, who talked about the ministry of the church council.
2. **Holy Week / Easter services.**
  - Maundy Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm
  - Good Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm
  - Easter breakfast, from 8:00 to 9:00 am
  - Easter worship, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am
3. **Baptism.** Nicolás William González, the son of Javier and Sara González, on April 17<sup>th</sup>.
4. **Stewardship workshop.** This was a very worthwhile workshop held on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Attending from Galilee were Carl and Sue Nelson, Mary Lanoux, and Pastor Ralph. Next meeting of the Team: May 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.
5. **Adult Forum.** I will have led Adult Forums on "Healing Ministry: Quackery or the Real Thing?" on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and "Jesus on Trial" on April 17<sup>th</sup>.
6. **Wellness ministry.** The Wellness Ministry Team composed of Katherine Baumgartner, Mary Lanoux, Joyce Solberg and myself made available the anointing with oil and a blessing for healing in the service on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The participation of the congregation was wonderful. In addition, the Team will be available for the laying on of hands and prayer for healing every first Sunday of the month at 9:15 am starting May 1<sup>st</sup>. Finally, Healing Touch Spiritual Ministry will be available at Galilee to members and the community two blocks of time each month.
7. **Elly Peterman.** Elly will conclude her ministry at Galilee on May 8<sup>th</sup>, and she will graduate from Luther Sem. with a M.A. in Children, Youth & Family Ministry on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Then she will move to Des Moines, Iowa. She will be married in Des Moines on August 13<sup>th</sup>. We will have a reception in honor of Elly on May 8<sup>th</sup>, and Christena Watson has volunteered to coordinate that.
8. **Synod Assembly.** Ron Peterson, Elaine Mundt and I are now registered for the Saint Paul Area Synod Assembly set for May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Action items:**

1. **New members.** Javier and Sara González, and their children Sofía and Nicolás, will be received into membership of Galilee on April 17<sup>th</sup>. The council should ratify this.

**Information items:**

1. **Continuing education.** I have registered for the Festival of Homiletics (Preaching) set for Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> through Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. This will be in Minneapolis. The Festival of Homiletics is a national event with the best living Protestant preachers in the U.S. as speakers.
2. **Thank you letter (attached) from Bishop Rogness for our mission support (i.e., synod benevolence).**