

**Galilee Evangelical Lutheran Church
Minutes of the Congregational Council Meeting
December 13, 2011 at the Baumgartner Home**

Attendance:

Council members present: Pastor Ralph Baumgartner, Karen Groebner, Steve Groebner, Lorrie Hayne, Joan Jarombek, Ron Peterson, Dan Simundson, Abe Watson and Miriam Peterson representing Mary Lanoux.

Council members absent: Paula Brown, Mary Lanoux, Elaine Mundt and Carl Nelson.

President Ron Peterson called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. after everyone had eaten a delicious ham dinner. He then led the devotions on Luke 20, which shows questions about the authority of Jesus.

Minutes of the November 10, 2011 Council Meeting:

The minutes were reviewed. The Council members unanimously approved the minutes.

Pastor's Report:

A copy of his report is attached. Not included in that report is the fact that Dean's Bar has requested that Galilee post their specials on our bulletin board. The positives and negatives of that request were discussed. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that it would be acceptable to post Dean's food specials but there should be no postings related to alcohol specials.

Financial Secretary's Report

Miriam gave this report since Mary was taking care of Louie after his shoulder replacement surgery. In November the regular (pledged and loose) offering was \$12,990.76 where the budget was for \$12,870.00, which is \$120.76 over budget. For the year-to-date totals we have received \$144,022.84 with a budget of \$144,492.00. We are \$469.16 under budget. The capital fund campaign has received pledges of \$14,144 through 2012. We have already received \$10,469 from the pledges and \$60 of unpledged. Have the new offering envelopes been ordered? When they arrive, they should be placed in the narthex for pickup.

Pastor Ralph has discovered that La Hermosa Church of God has declining membership. They are current in their rent. A Chinese ELCA Church presently meeting in St. Anthony Park Lutheran has approached Galilee interested in using our space if La Hermosa does not continue.

Treasurer's Report

Steve presented the reports for November. We are about \$1,000 in deficit for the year. After transfers, the income in November exceeded expenses by \$757, but for the year to date the expenses exceeded the income by \$1,021. The Xcel bill will be lower in December because Project Home will not be using our facilities and our monthly average was lower than expected. There will be information in the bulletin on Dec. 18 and 25 explaining the deficit and requesting that members become current or even give extra by the end of 2011.

After discussion and upon motion by Karen and a second by Lorrie, the council approved the Financial Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Reports.

Team Updates:

There will be a New Year's Eve party from 7:30 until 10. Nuwoe Davis is in charge. The party will not go until midnight because there is church the next morning.

Lights on the steeple - Only one light is functioning since the lights were filled with water. Abe is working on the problem.

Parking lot problems

Pastor Ralph spoke to Dave Krigsted, the person in charge of facilities of the National Guard. Soldiers are now parking in our lot on Sundays. He will stop any parking on Sundays. Pastor did give him permission for the soldiers to park in our lot on Saturdays. If there are special events of the Guard, they need to talk to us to get permission to park.

With the apartments next door, they will be paying 12.1% of all the snow plowing bills. In our contract with them, they have permission to use 8 parking spots. A letter is being sent to them talking about the use of the parking lot before the snow is plowed. We are asking that they only park on the west side so that the snow can be plowed into Galilee's yard. The letter also asks the tenants to drive more slowly through the parking lot so that no one will be hurt.

2012 Budget

In Carl's absence, Steve reported that the Finance team met on Thursday, Dec. 8. They created a tentative budget for 2012. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2012. On Jan. 22 the Adult Forum will discuss the budget. Information was taken from committee requests with no cuts being made from those requests. The budget will be down from \$164,000 to \$159,000.

Playground - The snowplow destroyed boards on the north end of the playground that were installed earlier this year. Abe will talk to Jim to place red marker sticks by the poles so that the plow will not hit the playground again.

New Business

Financial Secretary: Miriam will be working with Mary with the financial secretary's duties.

Nominating Committee:

The committee is composed of Ron, Joan, Teresa Shores and perhaps Jim Zrust. They must replace Ron, Joan, and Lorrie on the council. Paula has now missed five meetings this year. Elaine has also missed a few meetings. Ron and Pastor Ralph will talk to both of them. Two congregational members should be found to serve on the Nominating Committee for next year before the Annual Meeting.

Thank You Notes

Pastor would like thank you notes sent to our part-time staff on behalf of the congregation. Those people are Jo Ann French, Cynthia Erickson, Louie Lanoux, Bill Zrust, Tim Rand, Raymond Nottidge, and Maureen Connelly. Joan volunteered to write the notes.

Steve reported that Rollie Berg has developed more sores so that he can no longer sit in his wheelchair for a period of time. He will not be able to come to church until those sores heal.

Communion Assistants

December 18 - Abe, Joan, Elaine

December 24 at 4p.m. - Ron

December 24 at 10 p.m. - Lorrie

December 25 - Joan, Steve, Mary

January 1 - Ron, Karen (unless an acolyte is present)

January 8 - Miriam & Lorrie

Next Council Meeting is on Thursday, January 12 at 7 p.m.

Devotions will be given by Joan on Luke 21.

Treats will be provided by Steve.

Abe made a motion to adjourn and Joan seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m. and everyone had dessert and coffee.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Peterson
Acting Secretary

**Pastor's Report
December 13, 2011**

Congregational updates:

1. **Christmas program.** As this report is written, the Christmas program is about to happen. Many members are involved in a variety of ways. It promises to be a wonderful event.
2. **GLOW.** GLOW is on a break until Jan. 11th.
3. **Victory Church food shelf.** This food shelf sponsored by a small Pentecostal congregation has closed down. Hundreds of people availed themselves to this service, which was available on Wednesdays at the armory. My take on this is that Victory Church was overwhelmed by this commitment.
4. **Young at Heart.** We had two events recently that were a lot of fun for this group of people from Galilee who are available to gather in the daytime. One event was a fabulous Thanksgiving dinner, and the other was a wonderful Christmas potluck meal. Thanks to Karen and others who have organized this.
5. **Adult forum.** We have had forums all fall, including one at which I was the presenter on the Biblical theme of the Kingdom of God. Seminarian John Ansell gave two presentations: once on his background and experience in seminary, and the other on his experience as a Christian in the Army.
6. **Preaching.** Seminarian Doug Johnson will be preaching on Dec. 18th.
7. **Christmas services.**
 - Christmas Eve (Saturday) – 4:00 and 10:00 pm
 - Christmas Day (Sunday) – 9:30 am
8. **Voices of Hope; People of Faith.** There will be a public meeting at Galilee on Thursday, Dec. 15th, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. This will be a discussion with some public officials about racial disparities and other inequities in the northeast region of the Metro Area. Members of the council are invited to participate.