

Congregation Council Meeting
January 19, 2010

Present: John Rivett, Judy Warmbier, Cathy Schulz, Patty Paisley, Pastor Rob; six (6) members of the Church Vestry: Jan Hennink, Bob LaDuke, Marsha Paetz, Brenda Bluem, Hillary Norfleet, and Jim Ostrander. Jeff Schram was also present as a guest.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by John Rivett, Council President and began with a scripture from Philippians, Chapter 3, read by Pastor Rob. He then asked each of us “How do we press on to the goal of serving God? How do we press forward to our goal or growth in our church?” After everyone offered their thoughts, Pastor Rob blessed the start of the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes: The minutes from December’s Council meeting were read over silently. There were no corrections to the minutes. Pastor Rob made a motion to accept the minutes as presented; which was seconded by Bob LaDuke. There was no further discussion. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote and the report was filed as presented.

A correction was discovered later in the meeting regarding the approval of the November minutes. It should have included the approval of the October minutes (due to the shortage of a quorum at the November meeting). A motion was made by Bob LaDuke and seconded by Judy Warmbier to amend the December minutes to show the approval of both the October and November Council meeting minutes. There was no further discussion. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Financial Report: Judy read over the Treasurer’s highlights as of 1/19/2010 which included:

- ◆ The General Fund still being in the black
- ◆ Missions Pledged to ELCA (over as of 12/31/09 by \$152.19)
- ◆ Missions Allocations – distributions made to LSSM, LWM, World Relief, & SMM)
- ◆ Family Wish Memorials – all but three (3) have been designated
- ◆ New Special Givings Account – Church Decorations

Judy asked for guidance for one other memorial (\$25) which was undesignated. A motion was made to add it to the collection for Haiti by Bob LaDuke and seconded by Jim Ostrander. There was no further discussion. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor presented a written report. Three (3) items that were NOT included in this report were:

#1) Youth Fundraising – 29-30 junior/senior high students have signed up for Confirmation Camp! This blessing also brings with it the need to raise \$8,855 in order to help send them. Each student is asked to contribute \$100 plus assist in any fundraising events that NOIZ and TAZ put on.

#2) Thanks to the nine (9) people from Zion who were at Saginaw Metro Ministries (SMM) assisting with the operating of the food pantry. The next date for Zion to help is Thursday, 4/22/2010, at 9:30am.

#3) Outreach: we have received an invitation to visit Stone Crest Assisted Living (in Freeland). We are looking at possibly having a Bible Study or church services on site there. Another thought is to “adopt Grandparents” who reside there.

Action Item: There are seventeen (17) new members that will joining Zion Lutheran:

- ◆ Noel, Sarah, Ella, Camden, Sabrina and Olivia Wagner by transfer from Calvary Lutheran Church, San Angelo, Texas

- ◆ Rebecca Jack, Madeline Holbrook, and Andrew LaFrance by affirmation of faith and baptism of the children
- ◆ Dale and Jodi Belill, Cori Cooper, and Amber Belill by transfer from Grace Lutheran in Saginaw
- ◆ Kathy Smith by affirmation of faith
- ◆ Ken and Sherri Williams, Jazmine, and Tom Petry by transfer from Zion Lutheran in Saginaw.

A motion was made to accept the transfer and affirmation requests as noted in Pastor's written report (18 total) by Patty Paisley and seconded by Judy Warmbier. There was no further discussion. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

President's Report:

Ongoing initiatives (Old Business):

1. **Survey Project:** this is still a work in progress. It will be a collaboration of the Stewardship Ministry along with John Rivett (and hopefully Dick Wirtz).
2. **Personnel Admin. Mgmt Team:** the team has not met but will be getting back into the "swing of things" soon.
3. **Council & Congregation Meeting Minutes on website:** currently posted are the Council meeting minutes from July, August, and September; and the Congregation Meeting minutes from January and April. The plan is to post the last 3 months of Council meetings and the last 12 months of Congregation meetings. We will also post hard copies on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.
4. **Stewardship project? (same as #1??)** John will contact Mark Frazier from the Stewardship Ministry.
5. **Preschool Contract:** John and Pastor met with Denise. There will be a small increase in their structured donation and the contract dates will change to reflect the school year.
6. **Results of Vestry Meeting:** keep sending in your new members, your chairperson, meeting dates/times, etc.
7. **Pastor's review:** the Consumer Price Index(?) for 1/1/2010 is up/at 2.7% (which is not what was thought is would be back in October when we created the budget). Because Pastor is a very dynamic part of Zion (just look at our numbers) and met his goals for 2009(?), it was recommended by John that we grant Pastor a 3% increase (on his base salary – does not include housing). A motion was made by Bob LaDuke and seconded by (?) that we give Pastor a 3% salary increase. Further discussion included the point that the entire council should be part of the review process and salary increase recommendation. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

New Business:

1. **Enter/Exit Parking Lot signs and traffic flow:** to help improve the flow of traffic in the parking lot and at the entrances/exits, it was recommended to place an "Entrance" sign at the South driveway and an "Exit" sign at the North driveway. The cost would be approximately \$60 each. A motion was made by Hillary Norfleet and seconded by Pastor Rob to approve the placement of such signs at the driveways of the parking lot. There was no further discussion. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

2. **Smoking Policy:** a recommendation was made by the Ministry of Property to place signs at the entranceways to the building (north and south) to “Please do not smoke within 50 feet(?) of the building”. Bob will check on the cost of these signs.
3. **Building and Pavilion Use Policies:** will bring and review at the February Council meeting.
4. **An FYI from Pastor Rob:** part of the distribution of Memorial funds from Dick Hall will be used to purchase AED’s (automatic electronic defibrillators?). They will be coming – along with the training to go along with them.
5. **Thank you’s to members for contributions?**
6. **Year-end reports??** Look at reporting from February to January, not January to December.

Ministry Reports:

Deacons: got all vacant spots filled – plus added one more position.

Education: there was no report at this time.

Elders: The report was included with the agenda.

Property: The report was included with the agenda. Added item to Tentative Project list: Elevator mandatory testing (due 2010). Side note: both lawn mowers were looked at from top to bottom. The invoice was received/paid in 2009, not 2010, which caused the offage in both budgets.

Worship: they have a group and will continue to meet.

Inreach/Outreach: There was no report at this time.

Stewardship: they are still clarifying their membership roster.

Auxiliary Reports:

Women’s Ministry: The reports (2) were included with the agenda.

Music Ministry: The report was included with the agenda.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Brenda Bluem and seconded by Jim Ostrander. There was no further discussion. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Closing Prayer at 9:36 P.M. by Pastor Rob

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Paisley, Congregation Council Secretary