

Council Meeting

August 18, 2009

Present: John Rivett, Judy Warmbier, Charlie Boman, Bob LaDuke, Mark Frazier, Doug Emerson, Brenda Bluehm, Jim Ostrander, Marsha Paetz and Margaret Diechman, guest.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 by President Rivett. The opening prayer and devotions were offered by Pastor Rob.

Minutes: The minutes were read silently. Charlie Boman made a motion to accept the minutes. It was seconded by Doug Emerson and passed unanimously.

Financial Report: The financial report was reviewed by Judy Warmbier. Doug Emerson made a motion to accept the report as presented. It was seconded by Brenda Bluehm and passed with a unanimous vote.

Pastor's Report: A written report was presented

- A new member class will begin on Sept 16 and new members will be accepted on Sept. 20th.
- Rally Day is scheduled for Sept. 13th
- The weekly Noisy offering begins in September.
- Zion will host a traveling play, "Mountain the Musical" on Oct. 4th. Four host homes will be needed, a free will offering will be taken.
- First communion will be celebrated on Sept. 27th and 30th following two sessions of instruction.
- The Fall Leadership Retreat for Pastors is scheduled for Sept. 27-29th on Mackinaw Island.
- Service ministries will be recognized on September 20th and 23rd.

ACTIONS ITEMS:

1. Stephen's Ministry is a program to train lay persons to provide one-to-one Christian care to hurting people in and around the congregation. Pastor would like to receive the "Stephen's Leader" training at a cost of \$1400. This fee could be partially paid by Pastor's education account, some may be paid by SMM, and/or the budget could be amended for this fee and the \$1600 licensing fee for Zion members to receive the "Stephen Ministers" training.
 - A motion was made by Mark Frazier to amend the budget with a line item that would pay the \$1400 for Pastor's training. Any reimbursement assistance from SMM would be returned to the education fund. The \$1600 licensing fee can be paid from a line item in next year's budget. The motion was seconded by Brenda Bluehm and passed with one dissenting vote.

2. A six workshop series titled “Healthy Congregation” that would move the congregation toward dynamic spiritual growth was proposed at a cost of approximately \$15 per person. The workshops would begin in November at Grace Lutheran Church.
 - Bob LaDuke made a motion to promote enrollment in the Healthy Congregations program. It was seconded by Jim Ostrander and passed unanimously.
3. Pastor Rob has been asked to develop model wording for the use of lay ministers to conduct the Eucharist at weekly services in the absence of an ordained minister. The individuals would be selected by the Pastor and approved by the Church Council.
 - Council recommended that the first preference was to engage an ordained minister, second preference—a trained lay minister and third a lay minister.
4. Compensation for those who have currently serviced as lay ministers was discussed.
 - Mark Frazier made a motion, seconded by Pastor Rob to pay those who have served this summer \$100 per service. The motion passed with one dissenting vote.
5. Trinity Lutheran in Saginaw has requested assistance with governance as well as fiscal and technical assistance for their center that serves local children and the neighborhood surrounding the center. No action was taken, but council members were asked to give thought to this request.
6. Pastor expressed some concern on the Endowment literature and action plan. He will work with John Rivett.

Ongoing Initiatives:

1. The Master Planning Project is in progress.
2. The Columbarium Repository is in Pastor Rob’s hands.
3. The Personnel Administration Management Team is meeting.
4. Marsha Paetz has scheduled some of the temple talks, but others are still in the scheduling process.
5. Council and Congregation Meeting minutes are being sent to Hiliary Norfleet to be included on the web site.
6. The Youth Group will begin collecting the Noisy offering in September.

New Business:

- A. Council members are encouraged to peruse the Endowment Fund Distribution Policy and send any recommendations to John Rivett, Sandy Worner or Marsha Paetz.
 - B. The October Congregation Meeting should include the budget, thanks for assistance with the new construction and the election of new Council Members and new members of the various ministry boards.
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- 1. The Treasurer's term ends this fiscal year. Henry Horadon has shown some interest in filling this position. John Rivett will follow up on this.
 - 2. The current Ministry chair people should be instructed to report new nominees to Charlie Boman who will coordinate the ballot for the October election.
 - 3. Bob LaDuke suggested that the model constitution shows the value of putting the Endowment information in the Continuing Resolutions portion of the Constitution. By doing this the Synod does not have to okay any changes.
 - 4. Margaret Diechman, the current Sunday School Superintendent, voiced concerns regarding the condition of the Sunday School rooms caused by the recent construction. Pastor Rob will meet with Margaret to resolve any issues.

Ministry Reports:

- 1. Deacons – no report
- 2. Education – no report
- 3. Elders – they are meeting next Wednesday.
- 4. Property – Report is enclosed.
- 5. Worship – no report
- 6. Women's Board – Report is enclosed.
- 7. In Reach/Out Reach –Report is enclosed.
- 8. Stewardship – Report is enclosed
- 9. Music – Report is enclosed.

Closing Prayer: The meeting was closed with prayer and adjourned at 9:18 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Caroline Wirtz,
Acting Secretary