

## **Council Meeting, June 21, 2011**

Members present: Pastor Rob Schmidt, Tom Laatsch, Kathy Smith, Gary Miller, Cathy Schulz, John Rivett, Jan Hennink, Bill Bell, Kathy Bell, and Marsha Paetz.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by John Rivett. Pastor Rob offered a prayer.

Pastor spoke on “the fruit of the spirit”. What gifts are needed to do our job? How can we invite/teach people about these gifts we receive to lead worship and stewardship? We discussed the growth and ministry for all of us – how to invite others to use their gifts. Question was asked why we don’t have an actual food pantry in our church (for discussion at a later date). What ideas do your ministry teams have to help teach about the Holy Spirit and invite people to use those gifts? Email those ideas to pastor or bring to the next meeting.

**MINUTES:** The May 2011 minutes will be approved at our July meeting.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** The financial report was included with the minutes. Cathy Schulz made two corrections. We are up \$7,139 more this month than this same month in 2010. Be grateful in prayer – we are blessed! Cathy will review before our next meeting to determine why this growth of income. Electronic giving is still being promoted as “the way to go”.

### **PASTOR’S REPORT:**

#### Vacation Days Report

Sundays - 1 used; 3 remain

Weekdays - 0 used; 24 remain

Funeral June 12<sup>th</sup> for Ester K. Ward (member)

Burial Ester K. Ward June 13<sup>th</sup>

Wedding June 17<sup>th</sup> at Holy Spirit in Shields for Smith - Huftnagel

Wedding Vow Renewal June 10<sup>th</sup> Eric and Lynn Anderson

Baptism June 12<sup>th</sup> Kerkau baby

Healing Service conducted May 29<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>

Baccalaureate Service organized and conducted June 1<sup>st</sup>

June 8 Care givers meeting

An update was given on the upcoming summer worship series “Fruit of the Spirit”.

**Action item:** Pastor suggested that we designate the noisy offerings from now until the end of August toward Joplin, Missouri disaster relief. There was conversation about the possibility of putting together a mission group who can go and participate in a one week mission there. Motion made by Cathy Schulz and seconded by Gary Miller to designate the noisy offerings from now until the end of August to the Joplin, Missouri disaster relief. There was no discussion. Motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

There was a recommendation to take December off as a council (versus a summer month) when staff is the busiest. Generally agreed.

**Action item:** Motion made by Kathy Smith and seconded by Gary Miller to purchase a 4G phone for Pastor Rob with internet access at a cost of less than \$200 and have the monthly bill sent directly to the church. There was no discussion. Motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Progress is being made on accounts shifting from church to pastor. Progress is also being made with children's church.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Long Range Planning Committee:** There will be a meeting at Dick Wirtz's house on Thursday, June 30 at 7 p.m. Please attend if possible as attendance has not been the best.

**Community Garden:** The garden area is marked off and Pastor has written a grant to the Endowment Fund to begin the garden next year.

**Vacation Bible School:** 48 staff and 36 children have signed up.

**Part-time Staffer:** Our current staff is working very hard, to the point help is needed. We should consider a small groups coordinator, a youth minister or a bookkeeper assistant. Should we possibly commit \$25,000 a year (a suggested amount) for a newly created position? Discussion is encouraged amongst the church membership in this regard for discussion at a later date. Motion made by Pastor Rob and seconded by Jan Hennink to budget \$25,000 in 2012 to plan for new staff position(s) as determined by Long Range Planning and Council. There was no discussion. Motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

**Facility Changes:** The furnace needs to be updated (over 40 years old and uses a lot of fuel). A new one would pay for itself in 7 – 8 years. More office space is needed. Our LAN needs to be improved and the PC's need to be upgraded. This is part of long range planning. Motion made by Kathy Smith and seconded by John Rivett to have Tom Laatsch get a price on a new furnace and to report to the next Council meeting in July with costs. There was no discussion. Motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

**Schedule Budgeting Process/Recruiting Leaders:** Pastor will speak with Cindy Frazier. Ministries should look at calendar year 2012 to January 2013 to determine if they are going to anticipate an increase in expenses. John Rivett will contact them. Further discussion tabled to next meeting.

**Scheduling Annual Congregation Meeting:** The annual meeting will be held October 23 (time to be determined). This is also the deadline for the budget and the nominating ballot.

**Next Meeting Date:** July 19, 2011

### **MINISTRY REPORTS:**

**Deacons** – Motion by Pastor Rob and seconded by John Rivett to accept new member Melanie Egbert as a Deacon with her term ending in 2013. There was no discussion. Motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote. Pastor complimented the Deacons on an increase in communication and the blessing / invitation to Melanie.

**Education** – Looking for Sunday School teachers for next year. Children’s Church is not a replacement for Sunday School – just a relief for parents so they can hear the sermon. Marsha Paetz is in charge of Vacation Bible School and doing a great job. The theme is “Sun/Surf/Beach Bash” and takes place July 18 – 21. Confirmation camp is the week before VBS.

**Elders** – no report.

**Property** – looking into living memorial tree replacement and they’re aware of their special giving budget.

**Worship** – meeting is tomorrow, June 22.

**Women’s Board** – There was no meeting in June. Still acquiring bids for pavilion canvas. Two bible studies are being planned. Upcoming dates are Fall Rummage and Bake Sale (Sept. 9 & 10); Women’s Retreat (October 14 – 16); and Harvest Bazaar (Nov. 12).

**In/Reach – Out Reach** – Good attendance at May 8 Ice Cream Social. Currently trying to think of ways to reach out to our high school graduates for the first year after they graduate. The church picnic will be held July 10. Plans are underway and volunteers are needed. August 14 is Great Lakes Loons Baseball Day. Plans are continuing with a Homecoming theme. December 3 is the Progressive Dinner.

**Stewardship** – The next steward story will be of the Decorating Committee for the August newsletter. (This should include flowers.) The September newsletter will feature the Banner Committee. They discussed plans for The Fruit of God’s Spirit program to begin in June and end with the Time and Talent Sheets and Stewardship pledge forms in the fall. They need volunteers for the church picnic on July 10. Please volunteer!

**Music** – Looking at purchasing another song license for additional music rights and working on VBS plans. Working closely with the strings group right now.

**Endowment** – they have a little over \$800 to distribute this year. Grant requests have been submitted and some are still coming in. The committee is ready to distribute the funds as soon as requests are processed.

Motion made by Tom Laatsch and seconded by Cathy Schulz to adjourn at 8:52 p.m. There was no discussion. Motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Pastor Rob offered a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Kathy Smith, Council Secretary*