

## **Council Meeting, July 19, 2011**

Members present: Pastor Rob Schmidt, Sandy Worner, Kathy Smith, Cathy Schulz, John Rivett, Jan Hennink, Bill Bell, Jim Stirrett and Cindy Frazier.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by John Rivett.

Pastor offered devotion based upon John 4:46-54, then offered discussion based on how we trust our prayers have been answered from God. In what ways do we know a prayer has been answered and what are the various answers God can give to our requests? Pastor Rob offered a prayer.

**MINUTES:** Motion made by Cathy Schulz and seconded by Cindy Frazier to accept the June 21, 2011 Church Council minutes as amended, deleting "Cindy Frazier will step in as church secretary if Marsha is called into jury duty". Motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Jan Hennink needs to be added to the Council email distribution list: freelandjan@hotmail.com.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** The financial report was included with the minutes. Income for June was up \$4300 compared to June 2010. Effective January 31, 2012, Cathy Schulz will resign from the Treasurer's position one year short of term. (Discussion follows later in the meeting.)

### **PASTOR'S REPORT:**

#### **Vacation Days Used:**

0 weekdays used; 24 remain

1 Sunday used; 3 remain

- Wedding off-site at Apple Mountain July 9 (non-members)
- No funerals
- Baptisms Jessica McQuinn July 13 and Kyla McQuinn July 17
- Confirmation Camp attended July 10-15 with Mark Frazier and 21 students
- Nursing Home Ministry suspended for month of July and will resume in August
- Tour of Hidden Harvest and East Side Soup Kitchen June 28
- New phone purchased for Pastor (\$150) and service selected to gain access to Internet and Wi-Fi; bills will be coming to the church directly and total approximately \$100/month.
- Pastor has yet to establish the bank account for Pastor's discretion and Good Sam funds.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Long Range Planning Committee:** Meeting was held at Dick Wirtz's house. The process is still coming together and some tasks still need to be assigned. They're probably 25% through the process.

**Vacation Bible School:** Approximately 60 kids; 40 adults. Marsha has done a tremendous job putting it together. This is one of our best programs.

**Part-time Staffer:** It was suggested to hire a contract employee as Treasurer of the church at an approximate salary of \$250 - \$300 per month in addition to a part-time staffer already approved at the June 21, 2011 Council meeting. It's currently a part-time job for a volunteer and people are overwhelmed as they try to juggle Church Treasurer responsibilities with their own personal employment responsibilities. This person could also make the deposits for the Endowment Committee. Cathy Schulz will work on a job description for our next meeting.

It was suggested the part-time staffer already approved should be directed toward our youth program. Pastor to find out the need assessment pertaining to his skill set and identify what is needed.

**Facility Changes:** Tom Laatsch still needs to provide furnace update bids. John Rivett will approach Tom for the bids for the next Council meeting.

**Budgeting Process/Recruiting Leaders:** Recruiting Leaders is the responsibility of the VP. Open offices will be President and Treasurer (one year completion position for Treasurer). Some ministries will also be open. John Rivett asked the VP to put together an individual mailing to go out to the membership to encourage our membership to nominate someone they feel would be an asset to any committee or as an officer of the church with the idea of those nominated, can accept or decline the nomination. Whether they accept or reject the nomination, it's important to recognize someone has found "gifts" within you, and that is a blessing to the church.

**Scheduling Annual Congregation Meeting:** Still waiting for furnace bids to see if a congregation meeting is needed prior to the annual meeting to be held October 23 (time to be determined). This is also the deadline for the budget and the nominating ballot.

**Community Garden:** The Township wants to announce (city-wide this fall) that the community garden will be available in the spring and the Township is willing to maintain it. Watering still needs to be worked out. They are working with their legal council to draft documentation. This will be on next month's agenda with discussion to include the Township.

**Next Meeting Date:** August 16, 2011.

#### **MINISTRY REPORTS:**

**Deacons** – Too much communion is being prepared. They will be eliminating one full tray and will be adding it back in the fall.

**Education** – No report

**Elders** – No report

**Property** – No report

**Worship** – No report

**Ministry of Women** – Mesh shades will be put up in the pavilion in the next month. Work has begun to set-up the Fall Rummage, which will be held September 9 – 10. Bible Study will run September 15 to November 19 (Study of John). Beth Moore Bible Study retreat will be held at Camp Lu-Wix-E October 21 – 23. The Bazaar will be held November 12. The next scheduled meeting is August 15 at 7 p.m.

**In/Reach – Out Reach** – Denny's Race was a success. Great Lakes Loons Sunday will be held August 14. We will continue with bonfires after home football games. The Progressive Dinner will be held December 3. The next meeting is August 4, 6:15 p.m. at Lori Laatsch's house. Future events include Out Reach to High School Seniors, tubing at Snow Snake, Homecoming and Walleye Parades, Sports Zone activity in the winter, May Ice Cream Social and Denny's Race in June.

**Stewardship** – Meeting was held on July 11. Upcoming Steward stories will focus on the Decorating Committee, the Banner Makers and the Grounds Care volunteers. The "gifts" of the Stewardship

Committee members include a willingness to serve, and the interest and concern for the financial and programmatic well-being of the congregation. After polling committee members on their interest to remain on this committee for another year, Jan, Fred and Ralph all indicated a willingness to continue serving on this ministry. The Stewardship Campaign will be held in September. Budget funding for 2012 was discussed; it was agreed to ask for a reduced budget of \$500. Bonnie Miller is resigning and they are looking for more people to serve. The next meeting will be held August 1 at 10 a.m.

**Music** – Currently busy with Vacation Bible School. Still deciding to have choir rehearsals on Thursday nights and/or Sunday mornings. Jenny plans to record music in the event she cannot be at church, i.e. in an emergency. She is also still playing piano for the strings group. Jenny will be resuming office hours soon.

**Endowment Fund** - The Endowment Fund has \$860 to distribute by year end. Money is still available (\$146 from Restricted Education Fund, \$27 from Restricted Music Fund and \$54 from Restricted Scholarship Fund). Other fund recommendations include \$315 toward our community garden project, \$166 to Saginaw Metro Ministry and \$152 to start-up a craft ministry with our local nursing homes. The Endowment Fund is looking for a Treasurer who needs to deposit checks with knowledge of Excel.

Motion made by Pastor and seconded by Cindy Frazier to adjourn at 8:47 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*