

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES DECEMBER 11, 2006

Members present: Pastor Mathews, Bob Davies, Bill Calhoun, Shirley Buntrock, Todd Rehder, Bill Oehler, Bengt Berg, Barbara Stauffer, Mark Davis and Charlie Saxe. Confirmation student Elizabeth Godusky and her mother were also present.

Council members introduced themselves to confirmation student.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm with a prayer from Pastor.

A motion to accept the minutes of the November 13, 2006 meeting, as presented, was made by Shirley Buntrock and second Charlie Saxe. Motion passed.

TREASURER –

Report for November was provided. Mark Davis questioned why the Youth Group expenses are so high. It was indicated that the Youth Director salary for the remainder of 2006 is coming out of youth group expenses. Mark suggested that there be a separate line-item to indicate the director's salary. A motion to accept the November financial report as presented (with future reports showing a separate line for youth director salary) was made by Mark Davis and second by Shirley Buntrock. Motion passed.

REPORTS OF MINISTRY TEAMS

WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM – BOB DAVIES

The Worship Ministry has added two new members: Julie Fisher and Patricia Novicke-Schwoebel. Jan Hess was selected as the secretary of this team. The next meeting has been scheduled and seating for the choir will be the main topic.

The team charter (as well as all team charters) is available on the web-site.

Pastor Mathews suggested that team chairpersons keep an eye on the web-site information to be sure that it is current and accurate for meeting dates, minutes, members, etc. It would be helpful if chairpersons would inform Pastor if there are any issues that need to be addressed by council.

EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM – DICK YOST

Heather Klien is seeking a liaison from each of the ministry teams to assist her with the events of each team in order that youth groups are aware of what the teams' responsibilities are as youth will be involved with each of the teams.

There has been an increasing need for changes to the Sunday morning Nursery program. It was suggested that this be a first task force formed. Concern about children's safety has implemented a sign in sheet with contact info and the "enforcement" of older children attending service rather than "hang out" downstairs in the nursery. Connie McDonnell has offered to oversee this task force. Mark Davis offered to assist where needed.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH –

At the most recent meeting, the focus was recording services for shut-ins and what format do we use for recording and distribution. It was indicated that Steve Bowman suggests the first step would be to purchase a new cordless microphone (approx. \$150-200). The team suggested that the most cost effective process would be CD's. The next step is to determine the amount of recordings and would recipients need CD players.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 2.

WITNESS AND FELLOWSHIP – BARBARA STAUFFER

A meeting was held November 15 and Mike Krahling was chosen chairperson. The team was broken into 4-5 subcommittees and chairs for each of those were chosen. The charter was completed and approved on December 4, 2006 and the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 11 at 6:00 PM.

SUPPORT MINISTRY TEAM –TODD REHDER

There are not major changes to the budget proposal and that will be presented to the congregation, with the following amendments, at the fall meeting on December 17.

Pastor indicated that the subscription for Sundaysandseasons (for liturgies) offered a discount on rates if new hymnals were also being purchased. We have purchased hymnals and the way the discount works is that you pay "up front" for two years and get the third year is discounted. Therefore, line 102 should be increased for 2007 from \$1077 to \$1100. A motion to accept that change was made by Bill Oehler and second Bill Calhoon. Motion passed.

A question arose of where funding will come from for recording services. It was suggested that \$300-400 be budgeted for these expenses. The suggestion is to use Endowment fund and then build it in to regular expenses.

The following changes occur in Pastor Mathews salary package on budget proposal categories: 520 increase to \$32160; 521 increase to \$20294; 524 increase to 8064.

The Stewardship responses have continued to come in with an overall increase in giving of \$11000. A list was provided to council members of congregation members to follow up with regarding their intent for 2007 pledging. Council members will contact this list of people by phone.

Regarding the computer upgrade, we are switching to Quicken and some of the computers in the office do not support Quicken because they do not have a compatible Windows edition. Pastor suggested looking for a sale on computers and placing a new computer in the Treasure's office that will support Quicken. A motion to approve \$500 for a new computer was made by Bill Oehler and second Shirley Buntrock.

Bill Calhoon is suggesting that needs of the church members and education classes be reviewed and updated as new approaches are being sought for expansion. Bill reports that previous reviews of data from Perceptnet indicate that we should be able to benefit well from a capital campaign. Bill is hoping to see some progress in the Long Range planning in the near future. There still remains the question of expanding on current properties or looking elsewhere.

Adding another service could be an option and can be discussed at future meetings.

A question arose regarding use of the Citizens Bank parking lot and as a goodwill gesture, should we transfer any accounts there. Bill questioned that if we have accounts there, might we get a lower interest loans. That will be referred to the Support Ministry team for finances.

A holiday appeal mailing has resulted in over \$1600 already collected and matched by Thrivent. Contributions will continue to be collected beyond that match.

OLD BUSINESS –

Bill Oehler has ordered the "Handicapped Parking" and Visitor Parking" signs and will install them when he receives them.

NEW BUSINESS –

New Member transfers to Trinity:

Cathy Sheffler: by Profession of Faith, Timothy Sheffler and son Ryan transfer from St. Paul Lutheran Church, Monroe, NY.

Cindy Brink, Brittney and Brad from St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Scranton.

A motion to approve these transfers was made by Mark Davis and second by Charlie Saxe. Motion passed.

Member Transferred:

Connie Memolo to Messiah Lutheran Church, Mauldin, South Carolina.

The Restructure Process has been well under way. It began in August with the formation of five Ministry Teams and the recruiting of members for those teams including council members and congregation members. Charters were drafted and completed. Teams will continue to meet with goals of fulfilling their charters and continuing to fulfill the needs of the congregation and the community. Teams will reach a "steady state" where they will strive for their goals and report to council identifying any obstacles and make corrections to improve.

Mark suggested self evaluations by chairpersons to ensure that teams are where they need to be and doing what they need to do. The charters indicate that teams will be assessed by each of the other teams and themselves to be sure teams are fulfilling responsibilities. Council needs to be a support and guidance system for all of the teams.

The Bigger Picture: Deferred to next Council meeting in order for members to have the opportunity to read "Maintenance or Mission" from the newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Synod.

Bill Oehler suggested that we obtain the "right of way" behind the church property. Follow up as needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM with the Lord's Prayer and a motion by Mark Davis and second Charlie Saxe.

The next Council meeting will be January 8, 2007 at 7:30 PM.

Carole Hamersly
Secretary