

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING
July 16, 2008

Attendees - Pastor George Mathews, Stephen Bettum, Steve Bowman, Bob Davies, Sam Lesko, Connie McDonnell, Bill Oehler, Nancy Pacyna, Todd Rehder, Mike Rosencranz, Barbara Strangfeld & Dick Yost. Absent: Joyce Schwabe. Visitor: Tammy Rade

Stephen Bettum agreed to record the minutes for this meeting of the congregation council.

Pastor opened with prayer about 7:05p.m.

Minutes of June 9, 2008 - Corrections to prior minutes of June 9th were: "Sam Lesko was elected Secretary of the congregation. --- The pre-school sub committee will be chaired by Barbara Strangfeld. --- The next meeting will be July 21st". Amended minutes were approved.

Reports from the Treasurer – Reports for June and the first 6 months of 2008 were reviewed. There were some concerns about our finances because of our self funding for the purchase of the property for the parking lot.

"The Bigger Picture" – There was conversation about the possible missions of our church with Tammy Rade who is a rostered diaconal minister of the ELCA. She anticipates joining our church and would like to use her training as a Mental Health Therapist and in some way connect to a mission for our congregation. Amongst the suggestions were ADD AH/AD support groups and the Life Keys program.

Worship Ministry Team – The Contemporary Worship Task-Force needs a chairperson as Jan Hess is not able to continue in that position.

Reviewed the Video and Sound proposals for the Contemporary Worship Service. Consensus seems to be that the Video proposal was reasonable but the Sound proposal was too expensive and too much for the size of the church. A motion was made by Stephen Bettum and seconded by Bill Oehler to go ahead with the Video proposal, minus the speakers, with a ceiling on expenses of \$5,000. After some discussion this motion was tabled for the next meeting.

Education Ministry Team – short discussion on "The Book of Faith" .

The Book of Faith Task force to meet on July 29th .

Service and Outreach Ministry Team – Discussion of Food for Problem Families. A Special Benevolence drive for the needs in the community, is on hold for now.

Witness and Fellowship Ministry Team – "The Book of Faith" to be a major program.

Connie McDonnell has agreed to be our church photographer.

Support Ministry Team – Shirley Buntrock's recovery progress is going very well. However, her husband may need surgery before she gets home at the end of July. He may not be able to attend to her needs at home. Discussion of possible aid to them occurred.

Lutheran Men in Mission is to meet this Wednesday July 23rd

In the second letter to the congregation about the parking lot property, a diagram that clearly shows the connection to the new property should be included.

Discussion followed relative to the Doughty's property at the corner of Bissell and West Grove Streets. There was some discussion as to the expectations of the Doughty's in relation to the short term and long term goals of the congregation. *(Addition to the Minutes: Later in the evening on July 16 it was learned that the Doughty's are not interested in selling their home at the present time because of changing family circumstances, but they are open to continuing the conversation as few years from now.)*

Appraisal is still in the works. *(Addition to the Minutes: On July 17 the pastor was able to cancel the plans for the appraisal without cost to the congregation.)*

A motion was made to borrow the money, not raised from the funding drive, from ourselves to pay for the parking lot property. Approved unanimously.

Discussion of the duties of the Treasurer. See separate page.

New Business:

Motion to accept new members, Vivian and Craig Johnson and Ellthea Louise Saxe.

A question came up as to whether our church or choir had been asked to participate in the installation of the new bishop which will be taking place on the morning of Saturday, September 27 at Elm Park United Methodist Church in Scranton. At this time congregations are being asked to provide refreshments and hospitality volunteers. There is no information relative to the participation of the choir

Next meeting is set for September 8, 2008.

Stephen Bettum has agreed to do opening devotions.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Bettum

**Trinity Lutheran Church
Clarks Summit , PA**

Support Ministry Team

**A Proposal
The Flow of Church Funds
and
Functioning in the Position of Congregational Treasurer**

The Position of Congregational Treasurer is filled by election annually by the Congregation Council at its June reorganization meeting

- 1- The primary financial records are retained on the secretary's computer in the church office. Currently the financial management program that is being used is Quicken 2004.
- 2- Whenever there are changes made to the Quicken data files in the church office, copies will be sent by e-mail to the church treasurer.
- 3- Checks will normally be printed in the church office and signed by the pastor.
- 4- Routine checks (*payroll, utilities, etc.*) will be printed and mailed by the church office without the need for consultation with the church treasurer.
- 5- Other payments will be disbursed at the direction of the congregational treasurer.
- 6- The congregational treasurer will be responsible for the preparation of monthly financial reports for the Support Ministry Team and the Congregation Council.
- 7- The congregational treasurer will be responsible for the presentation and interpretation of monthly financial reports for the Support Ministry Team and the Congregation Council.
- 8- The congregational treasurer will be responsible for the preparation and presentation of financial reports to the congregation as needed.
- 9- The congregational treasurer will be responsible for the preparation of tax reports (local, state, and federal) as well as other necessary reports as needed (*i.e.: Worker's Compensation Audit Report*)

The congregational Treasurer will report to the Support Ministry Team, but is responsible to the Congregation Council.