

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, April 9, 2007

PRESENT: Council Members Sandy Anderson, Paul Carne, Karen Caswell, Karen DeZiel, Doug Leisenring, Mary Maercklein, Tim Mulvaney, Deanne O'Dell, Trina Pearson, Ann Rath, Bob Sovey, and Raquel Zelenak; staff members Don Aronson, Sandy Flinn, and Pastor Andersen

ABSENT: Darrell Casperson, Bob Gregg, Don Nyquist, and Jeanne Sauter

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Tim Mulvaney.

DEVOTIONS: Devotions were presented by Mary Maercklein who spoke about a Methodist Church service she attended recently while in Columbus, Ohio. She talked about how God leads us where we need to be even when we're not sure where we're going.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Karen D. and seconded by Deanne O. to accept the minutes of the March 12 Council meeting as read. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mary M. and seconded by Ann R. to accept the Treasurer's Report, Financial Secretary's Report, and the Memorial/Restricted Funds Report. Comments were made that some of the figures in the Treasurer's Report seem a little low and that this is because the Nolden money hasn't been transferred yet. The Financial Secretary's report is also slightly behind because some statements haven't been received yet. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you messages were read from: Donald Hallberg, Executive Director for Development Services, ELCA, for our recent gift and Pastor Paul Mai for the welcome he received during his visit to Bethany and for the gift basket. A request for funds was read from Ron Steele, 2007 Wartburg Seminary Annual Fund Chair.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Financial Statement Revision Committee: Tim M. reported that Pastor Peterson has put together an explanation of terms used in the statements. The committee will meet to finalize the changes and then give their report.

Social Ministry & Evangelism: Bob S. reported that the books to be used for the Jail Ministry are on order. A letter to be given to prospective members is being revised. The committee also recommends that all new members be assigned mentors who will also attend the last new member class and that perhaps a meal could be served before this class. They also proposed having a "Family of the Month" to help members get to know each other better. Tim M. congratulated the committee on coming up with some excellent ideas.

Worship & Music: Don A. reported that there have been no complaints about the plastic communion cups and that their use has been greeted with great enthusiasm by the members of the Altar Guild.

SACRED PATHWAYS Karen D. led a discussion on the first two chapters of Sacred Pathways, the book this year's council has chosen to study. Those who find joy in incorporating Nature into their worship were discussed. Members were asked to read Chapters 3 & 4 for the next meeting. Positive comments were received from those who have been reading the book.

Council members watched the sermon portion of a videotape from Pastor Mai. Many positive comments were made. The Call Committee will be watching several other tapes on Wed., Apr. 11, at 6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend. It was agreed that several members of the Call Committee will speak at both portions of the Special Congregational Meeting on Sun., Apr. 15, to

give their impressions of Pastor Mai. Details were finalized for the reception for Pastor Mai's family and the schedule for both Saturday and Sunday. All members were encouraged to attend the reception on Saturday.

OLD BUSINESS: Lance Rath looked at the church office printers and recommended the purchase of two new printers: a color printer for \$459.00 and a monochrome laser printer for \$359.00. Both of these are network capable. There are some network problems that still need to be addressed. Doug L. moved and Paul C. seconded that money left from the Thrivent matching funds and the Christmas offering be used to purchase these computers. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Pastor Mai's proposed compensation package was discussed. The high cost of insurance was a concern, but this cost could possibly be split with another church at some point if his wife receives an intern position and/or a call to a church. The moving package was also discussed, including the possibility of having members of our congregation help with the move. Sandy A. moved and Ann R. seconded that the compensation package be approved. The motion carried.

The next regular meeting of the Council will be held on Monday, May 14, at 7:00 PM. Sandy A. will have the devotions.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen L. Caswell, Secretary