

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

May 11, 2010

7:30 P.M.

Council Members In Attendance: Jeff Jorgenson, Jason Swenson, Shelly Maes, Brian Kruse, Shana Zahrbock, Amme Houseman, Tim Tomasek, Gaylen Bierman, Betty Kauffman, Dan Marks, Pastor Jacquelin Rostad, Cathy Berg, Donna Reaves, La Oeltjenbruns, Dawn Planting, Pastor Bob Dahl, Lee Raske, Pam Russell, Jason Peterson, Linda Bloom-Scott, Beth Roelfsema

President Maes called meeting to order at 7:31 pm with the members reading the mission statement of First Lutheran Church.

Pastor Jackie led devotions on, "Dwelling in the Word", Psalm 103. She read the Psalm first, then each of the members read interactively verse by verse. A discussion between neighbors for the meaning of these verses, what items jump out at us was held. Pastor Jackie then closed the devotion time with prayer

Pastors Report

Pastor Jackie stated that confirmation is done and this service was well attended. There will be a meeting this week to plan activity and purpose for the 18-40 age group. Over the summer this will become more defined.

Pastor Bob stated that the confirmation offering gathered will be used to support the Faith Chest Ministry. Over \$500 was received for this ministry which recognizes the 1st year anniversary of baptism. Vacation Bible School planning is in process and this year the dates have been moved one week later to accommodate those school teachers that also teach VBS and the end of the year school calendar. A decision will be made soon on holding only 1 session for VBS this summer, as enrollment is down. An update on Corlys' and her health was shared. Both the church staff and Corlys' family appreciate the prayers that have been offered.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the previous meeting were emailed to the Council with the May agenda. Tim Tomasek moved, Beth Roelfsema seconded that the minutes for April 13, 2010 be approved as amended (edit Jacqueling to Jacqueline). Discussion held. All votes yes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Pam distributed the treasurer's report for April 30, 2010 and highlighted specific items: Confirmation and VBS are expensed out, but then are reimbursed. She has not forgotten about request at the annual meeting for adjusting budget, but at this time is not necessary. The executive committee is monitoring this and will be keeping an eye on this for future consideration. A graph was shared showing the general fund giving from January through week #18. The attendance each week also shared, but not included in the graph. Pastor Bob requested that specifics of major expenses not be shared via the newsletter, unless there is plenty of opportunity to explain the expense. This has potential of creating misunderstanding among members. Tomasek moved, seconded by Houseman to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. All votes yes, motion carried.

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Old Business

Church Wide Goals

The 5 goals were reviewed by Maes. These goals are:

1. Increase worship attendance
2. Grow programming for "Lutheran Men in Mission."
3. Experience a revival of the Holy Spirit within the family of God at First Lutheran.
4. Improve church-wide communication
5. Improve new member sponsorship.

Committees were asked to talk about these at their meetings and offer suggestions and solutions to begin attaining them. Suggested ideas that different committees (in small group settings) brought forward included: a date night, new ways to increase worship attendance, divide the men's group into 2 instead of 1 large group, capitalizing on what is already in place like Circle of 8 (Bible verses about food read at 1 group to initiate some "God talk" within the experience) without making it intimidating. Committee chairs were encouraged to continue these discussions in their next month's meetings as well.

Ad Hoc Task Force Report – Jason Swenson began his report by reading Philippians 4: 6-7. This group wants to communicate and keep the topic out in open to assist in avoiding rumors. They are doing the best that they can to work together to provide communication to heal our congregation. This has been a brutal experience for the committee and they ask that the congregation have patience with this task force as they move forward.

Revised Job Descriptions, Staff Annual Review Process , Staff Annual Goal Setting Process – These 3 items have been given to staff, but not a review of process and an overview for staff was shared with them. This will be discussed in more detail at the June Council meeting with the hope of action taken at that meeting. Pastor Bob shared that July 13 has been set by staff as their annual planning meeting for goal setting and these processes will be addressed at this time as well.

Synod Assembly Report – Maes highlighted events from the Assembly held in Redwood Falls; workshops on prayer shawls, quilting offered and this year a service project was available to prepare candle bags for the Relay for Life. Bible studies and many fun events to connect with people from various congregations from the synod were enjoyed by the group that attended from 1st Lutheran. Discussion and questions about this assembly were held.

New Business

MN All State Lutheran Choir – This group is planning to be in Marshall on June 27 and would like to assist with any or all of the Sunday service that date. They do have criteria that needs to be met for hosting them: a \$250 fee to be paid prior to their coming, lunch for entire group on 27th, and a free will offering taken. Motion by Pam, seconded by Peterson that the MN All State Choir be confirmed to come to 1st Lutheran on June 27, 2010 to participate in the 9:30 AM service. The \$250 fee would be paid out of the benevolence fund, and the chancel choir serve lunch assisted by the LCW, with the Worship & Music Committee coordinating the aspects of this event. Discussion was held. The choir would have the opening and about 40 minutes of singing, and the regular worship service would be conducted with their musical assistance. The free will offering will be taken at the doors. All voting yes, motion carried.

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Future discussion at council meeting: Bible placement in the sanctuary will be covered at the June meeting.

Committee Action Needed

(Please submit written reports to Marlene)

Education – 100 have registered for Vacation Bible School.

Evangelism – No updates

First Lutheran Women – Dawn Planting encouraged participation in their monthly activity by ALL women of the church.

Property & Management – Bierman reported that the carpet will be taken out of Fellowship Hall in June. He expressed appreciation that the 1st Lutheran Women are paying for this new carpet, and it is not coming out of operational funds. Pastor Bob indicated that painting will need to be done prior to the carpet being changed out and painters may be needed. Bierman has already a small group organized to get these jobs completed.

Social Ministries – No updates, encourage participation

Stewardship – Peterson reported that this committee will continue to be watchful of the Financial Plan. He suggested that the Treasurer check into establishing a line of credit as backup, in case it's needed as we head into summer months and the unknowns associated with these times. Pastor Bob stated that a letter is being written to encourage giving over summer months.

Worship & Music – Tomasek reported that Steve Meyer has expressed interest in directing Chancel Choir and most all slots are filled in the Service groups for services.

Youth & Family – Roelfsema reported that the Youth have just completed their walk/clean the highways project and it went well.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned with everyone praying the Lord's Prayer. Adjournment at 8:59 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

La Oeltjenbruns, Secretary Pro-Tem