



Church Council Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2007

1. Meeting was called to order: by Russ Albert at 12:10 pm.
Present: Pastor John, Kara Wilcox, Eric Drake, Dan King, Gary Powalish, Milly Van Valzah, Steve Shoudy, Cindy Loken, Dan Syverson, Russ Albert, Linda Hanson, Jan Ethington
Excused: Tyler Syverson, John Herring
Absent:
2. Opening devotion given and lunch provided by Linda Hanson
3. Approval of Minutes November 18. Motion by Milly and seconded by Eric. Approved.
4. Correspondence:
5. Pastor John's Comments:
 - Roof repair will happen when there is a break in the weather. Materials have been received.
 - Pr. John will be gone January 2 to 9.
 - Pr John would like to propose a columbarium, gazebo, or garden area by the labyrinth. \$2000 has been given in memorials for these purposes. Pr John proposes that it be taken to the congregation at the annual meeting and to have the council appoint a task force to develop this proposal, its financing and design with the understanding that the final proposal will be approved by a congregational meeting. Motion by Dan S, seconded by Steve. Discussion: resolution to appoint a task force. Take a step first before the task force to introduce it to the congregation. Maybe we need more information first, since it is a significant undertaking. Change wording to include a study, rather than implying that it is a "done deal". "Explore the concept, interest. . ." Council voted to not take a proposal to the congregation. Linda has offered to explore and gather information. The suggestion is to talk at the annual meeting about the campus usage planning – and to talk about the possibility of a columbarium in the future planning.
6. Membership: No activity this month.
7. Committee Reports
 - Building and Grounds: Question from Russ – November minutes stated that caulking instead of flashing will be used on some pipe through holes. Flashing will still be used on the clerestory and valleys. Committee report by Gary: one concern – Linda Tolson said that there was much concern about the ice in the parking lot after the ice storm. Linda sent a letter to Russ. Russ read the letter. We have a responsibility to take care of the ice for the safety of preschool attendees, visitors, or members. Should we ask that the preschool budget to help with the cost? Ask the committee to explore. There is a possibility of doing some salting with a broadcast spreader. It won't be necessary to salt after every snow or plowing. How about the person shoveling use the spreader in the instances when we need it? Gary will talk to Linda Tolson. We have a responsibility to have a clear parking lot. The B and G committee is also changing some of the lights over to cfl bulbs. May start to change some of the children's chapel and classrooms where we don't use dimmers, to save cost and electricity.
 - Education: 9:30 service, Sunday school children will be in the service up to the time of the lessons and then go to SS. The time for SS may extend for about 15 minutes past the service. 5th and 6th graders will be encouraged to go to communion. Confirmation age kids will be encouraged to attend youth gathering at 9:30 and attend 8:00 or 10:45 services. Worship and Music committee also supports this joint proposal. Motion by Eric: start Jan 6, 2008 to follow the recommendations presented. Seconded by Milly. Approved.
 - Evangelism: No report. John Herring was not here.
 - Finance/Treasurer's Report: Report by Dan. Preliminary budget. Reviewed insurance policy and got a new quote – saved \$200 to \$300. Suggesting having some selected people transfer some of the pledged income from building to general fund. Suggest having a forum on the proposed budget prior to the annual meeting. Preliminary budget includes input from

committees. Bare bones and “would be nice to have” budget. Growth challenge is not a good thing to plan on. 2008 income budget is 20k less than the 2008 expected expense budget. Dan’s opinion is to not freeze the salaries, that it would be an insult to the staff to not give an increase.

- Treasurer’s report: Steve – Financial summary. Year to date: General fund overspent 17k plus 12k from prior years. Under by 29.6k. page 9 – 2007 vs 2006. There is one fewer Sundays this year than in 2006. Expenses are up by \$7k. We are \$24,810 down from where we should be plus the \$12k to make up from last year.
 - Preschool Committee:
 - Social Concerns: No report. There will be a health fair on February 10, 2008.
 - Stewardship: Getting final total. \$167,986 pledged to the general fund so far. 61 families. 12 of them are people who did not pledge last year. Last year we had 79 families pledge. 30 families from last year did not pledge yet. Dwight has volunteered to contact them.
 - Worship and Music: Joint report with education committee.
 - Youth Ministry: Ski trip in January.
 - Sign task force: Not much activity.
 - Audit Committee:
 - Personnel Committee:
 - Nominating Committee: Have not met. Mike Metcalf is chairman.
 - Earned Income Task Force: good expectations for sponsors for the art fair this year.
8. Strategy and Specific Objective developments – Milly – Mission statement. Milly challenges the council to keep the mission in front of us and to highlight one aspect of the mission each month during the year. When undertaking projects, remember what part of the mission statement we are fulfilling. Council members are asked to take the mission statement and think about it and play with it through the month. Suggestion – gift instead of promise. Sharing god’s love and free gift of life through Christ - caring, hearing, rejoicing, inviting, serving, and teaching. Maybe we could have a forum in 2008 to revisit the mission statement. Russ will announce this at the annual meeting.
9. Other business:
- Christmas offering is to be put in general fund to pay our unpaid benevolences. Motion by Russ, approved.
- Further effort on end-of-year appeal. Russ will speak – remember the number in parentheses. Gorilla in the room – need to reconcile the budget. Can’t leave the two numbers different. How do you want to make up that number? One option is to go to people to ask for money to make up deficit. Dan doesn’t see a problem doing that in January for 2008 budget. We can modify commitments in January for the new budget. Pr John: the growth challenge number is given by people who have given to that during the year. There will be a forum on the budget on January 13th. Put the announcement in the bulletin each week.

A motion to set the annual meeting for January 27th at noon was made by Milly and seconded by Dan S.

The next meeting will be on January 13th, 2008 at noon.

John Herring will provide lunch and a devotion.

The meeting was closed with a prayer and adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Loken
Secretary