



## Church Council Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2008

1. Meeting was called to order: by Joe Chamberlain at 12:07 pm  
Present: Pastor John, Kara Wilcox, Cindy Loken, Dan King, Dan Syverson, Jan Ethington, Diane Peters, Brett Henbest, Steve Shoudy, Gary Powalish  
Excused: Allan Peters, Eric Drake  
Absent: Matt Wehby,
2. Opening devotion given and lunch provided by Kara Wilcox. The topic of devotions was "Christmas Stolen".
3. Approval of Minutes November 23, 2008. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Brett and seconded by Kara. Approved.
4. Proposal by Mike Metcalf: The council has a summary of the proposal. One dollar per family unit per month, after initial seed money startup. As we approach our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we could have the official kick-off at the anniversary celebration. Start now to have the gift at the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This proposal would set us apart from everybody else. We will be the Million Dollar church. This could generate a sense of purpose and excitement within our congregation. Start it now while we still have some charter members. Other benefits: Mike intends that with our approval to challenge other churches at the synod assembly to do the same at the 2011 churchwide assembly. He has started conversations with Mission Investment Fund with the ELCA. Money invested with them goes to support the growth of other new churches in the ELCA. Create a fund that is suitable with small incremental long-term investments. A possible name for the fund could be "Cross and Crown investment challenge fund".
5. Long Range Planning Task Force: They put together a survey and seven questions that they thought would draw out thoughts from members. They tabulated the results. The committee did not have any perceived conclusions. When they reviewed the results, they saw that the congregation believed that the church ought to grow – that it is time to take the step to grow in the following ways – spiritual growth, growth in programs, and numerical growth. Now Cross and Crown has a pastoral structure; we need to move to an organizational church structure. Based upon this, the committee made some recommendations – they want to center on spiritual growth and growth in programs and that will result in numerical growth.

The council members received a copy of the long range planning task force report. The members of the long range planning task force attended the council meeting to present their report and answer any questions. Joe summarized the report for the council and after the summary and discussion, Kara made a motion that the long range planning summary be made available to the congregation by next Sunday and open forums be developed to discuss the information prior to the annual meeting. A vote to go ahead with the long range plan will be taken at the annual meeting. A request was made to include the dates of the forums on the report cover. The motion was seconded by Brett. The motion passed.

6. Assignment for feedback about this meeting: Cindy will put a summary in the Cross and Crownicle in mid-January.
7. Correspondence:
8. Pastor John's Comments:
9. Membership: Eric Peterson died on December 9, 2008 and will be removed from the membership rolls.
10. Strategies:
  - Task force for long-range facility and staff planning.
  - Task force on Member Involvement – Jan Ethington. Goal was to invite and enable all members and prospective members to serve. Jan will provide the council members a copy of

their report. The report will also be included in the annual report. The task force members were thanked for their hard work.

#### 11. Committee Reports

- Building and Grounds: Minutes from November meeting. Dan S suggested setting aside money for major repairs, like parking lot resurfacing that will be needed sometime in the future. Capital improvement fund - should we put it in the budget and have a deficit budget or make another budget for cap improvements? Should we give feedback to the congregation after we get the pledges in and let them know where we stand and give people the opportunity to revise their pledges?
- Education: No report.
- Evangelism: Minutes from December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting are in our packets. Global Mission dinner – David Stocker will be the presenter. Feb 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Finance/Treasurer's Report: Deficit - general fund down 2,061. Actual ytd deficit of \$24,239. We only have 46 pledges in so far.
- Preschool Committee: Kara attended a meeting. No minutes. DCFS came out and we need to have a pest management policy – Linda Tolson came up with one. It will be forwarded to buildings and grounds committee. There are problems with water quality at Ledgewood. They use bottled water for drinking and cooking. We can have that test done here to check our water. Kara gave the letter from Ledgewood to Gary P for the buildings and grounds committee to check out. Kara will talk to Ellen about having our water tested.
- Social Concerns: Minutes are in the packets. There was discussion to keep Christmas offerings for the budget. If we have money over the budget, we can split it three ways.
- Stewardship: Have not met.
- Worship and Music: Have not met.
- Youth: Did not meet. Came up with a budget.
- Audit Committee: No activity. Motion by Pr John to appoint Keith Wicklund (new member) to the audit committee with Diane Peters and Bill Clemens. Cindy seconded. Passed.
- Personnel Committee: No activity. Will meet on Jan 5<sup>th</sup> to review salaries.
- Nominating Committee: No activity. Russ has been contacted.
- Earned Income Task Force:
  - a. Dicken's "Christmas Carol": They came, ate, laughed, and ate figgy pudding. The net income was \$201.10.
  - b. May Jubilee Sale: Task force is working on it.

12. Other business: Mike Metcalf proposal. We have to make a recommendation to include on the annual meeting agenda or not. Need congregational approval. Have a summary put out ahead of time to go in the annual meeting booklet. Should we make a recommendation where the money will be invested? State that "for now the money will be invested in the ELCA mission investment fund". Motion to have Mike present it at the congregational meeting by Brett and seconded by Diane. Discussion by Kara that it will be invested in the ELCA mission investment fund". Include in the motion to have Mike re-write the structure paragraph to include that the money will be invested in the ELCA mission investment fund. A written explanation will go in the annual report. Diane seconded. Passed with two negative votes.

Christmas offering will go in the general fund. If we go beyond our expenses over income, then suggest that we split the offering to go to 3 benevolences. World hunger, cornerstone ministries, LSSI. Diane seconded. Passed.

13. The next meeting is Sunday, January 11, 2009 at noon. Drinks, lunch, and devotion will be provided by Jan Ethington.

14. The meeting was closed with a prayer by Pr John and adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Loken  
Secretary