

Zion Lutheran Church
Hummelstown, Pennsylvania
CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of the January 15, 2009 Meeting

Regular Council Meeting:

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Howard Andrews | Don Sheaffer |
| Lynn Danilowicz | Charles Will |
| LuAnn Doyle | Pastor Alan Wenrich |
| Chris Ehmann | Pastor Darlis Swan |
| Liz Joyce | Deacon Marsha Roscoe |
| Deb Kepner | George Riddle, Pres |
| Jill Kiessling | Dave Myers, V. Pres |
| Bonnie Rudi | Mike Good, Sec. |
| | Nancy Hartman, Finance |
| | Richard Weiss, Finance |

Excused Absence:

Heidi Chan and Lori Beaver.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Congregation Council President George Riddle.

Devotions and Prayer Concerns:

Dave Myers read from the internet – Christianity.com, “Laws of the Lighthouse” by Max Lucado. Truths that divine the way we should navigate our life – “Live Gold more than you fear hell.” “Pray twice as much as you fret”, were some of the ideas to live by.

Prayer concerns ere expressed for Connie Burnside, Sara Pringle, Regina Dunkinson, and Ralph Shreve.

Adoption of Agenda:

President George Riddle presented the agenda for inspection. It was approved as presented.

Secretary’s Report:

The minutes of the last Regular Congregation Council Meeting dated December 18, 2008 were submitted by Secretary Michael Good. They were approved as presented.

Communications:

There were no communications.

Senior Pastor’s Report:

Not Available

Assisting Pastor's Report:

Highlights and Concerns:

I was concerned about how my injured foot would affect my ministry for a few weeks. The staff at Zion became a "support team" for me – taking over for me when needed and providing all kinds of care to help me heal!

I trust that I grew in my appreciation for those who have illnesses and injuries.

I am concerned for all who are suffering because of the Israeli/Gaza War. I hope that we as the ELCA will have an opportunity to help alleviate the pain.

Pastoral Contacts:

Hospital Calls
Home Calls 3
Office Appts.

Pastoral Acts:

Teaching
Preside at worship 2
Preach 3
Baptisms
Weddings rehearsals
Weddings
Funerals

Administrative Acts:

Meetings Attended 6
Continuing Education

Churchwide Involvement:

I had a conference call to de-brief from the last meeting of the Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Committee of the Synod and plan for the continuing discussion of the ELCA – UMC proposal for full communion (closer fellowship between Lutherans and Methodists.) This is part of my work as Ecumenical Representative for LSS-ELCA.

Other:

I participated in a conference call for interfaith leaders sponsored by the Jewish Council for Public Affairs to discuss the Israel/Gaza War. The presenter was Ambassador Colette Avital who is a member of the Israeli Parliament.

Diaconal Minister's Report:

Highlights and Concerns:

Pastoral Contacts:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Hospital Calls | 2 |
| Home Calls | 6 |
| Office Appts. | 5 |

Deacon Acts:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Teaching | 5 (Adults, Confirmation & Zion Preschool, ZYG) |
| Preach | 1 (12/21) |
| Weddings rehearsals | 0 |
| Weddings | 0 |
| Serve as Deacon at Funerals | 1 (Olin Miller) |
| Serve as Deacon at Baptisms | 0 |

Administrative Acts:

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Meetings Attended | 14 |
| Continuing Education | |

Churchwide Involvement:

- Providing resources / guidelines for churches regarding child protection policy / safeguards in place for the congregation.

Lay Visitor's Report:

A written report dated December 18, 2008 to January 1, 2009 was submitted by Lay Visitor David Myers.

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Home Visits | 2 (4 communions) |
| Institution Visits | 3 (0 communions) |
| Totals | 5 (4 communions) |

Youth Report:

There was no report given.

Treasurer's Report:

Revenue is about \$20,000 year-to-date, but about \$19,000 ahead of 2007. Dividends for the year were \$40,000, about \$9,000 ahead of budget. There was a \$34,000 gain in income for the year. Rental income is up for the year, and spending has been kept under control due to the great work of the committees.

The motion to pay lines 702 – 713 of the budget was made by Chris Ehmann and seconded by Dave Myers. Unanimous approval was voiced to the motion.

There was a loss of about \$732,000 in investments, mostly in Allied Irish. However, the amount given per person in December was up.

A Motion was made by Charles Will to have a signature on checks up to \$5,000, with no blank checks. It was seconded by Jill Kiessler and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Budget:

The proposed Budget amount for 209 is \$511,600. Discussion on the budget followed.

It was recommended that to be fair to staff, the travel expenses be raised by \$2,000 for the year. Pastor Wenrich will get a mileage stipend and Deacon Roscoe will submit for mileage. Budget item for travel expenses will be raised to \$8,000.

Supply personnel will be eliminated. The amount for music supplies was lowered, as was the Sunday Church School material, as there is an extra amount of both in supply. The Lutheran Magazine subscription was cancelled. The Women's Retreat column was taken down to zero for the year. The amount for printing and supplies was increased to \$2,500, and postage and envelopes was decreased to \$2,500. Service contracts are up by \$300. Cleaning supplies were reduced to \$2,500, but Heat/Gas/Electric was raised to \$19,500. Water, sewage, and garbage were raised, but repairs and maintenance was lowered to \$40,000. Insurance increased by \$1,500.

These changes still leave a shortage of \$18,319. This money will be taken from the \$96,880 of un-encumbered money, although the budget will show the shortfall when presented to the congregation.

A motion was made by Chris Ehmann that the congregation be responsible for the medical coverage of the called roster leaders. It was seconded by Lynn Danilowicz. At the present time Pastor Wenrich and Deacon Roscoe are on their spouse's coverage. They will be reimbursed for this to a total of \$3,200. Approval was voiced to the motion.

Dave Myers made a motion to give a cost of living adjustment to the staff of 3%. The second was made by Lynn Danilowicz. Approval was voiced to the motion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Due to the length of the discussion on the 2009 Budget, there were no committee Reports given.

Old Business:

There is a potential for the house of Russell Staub. If the congregation approves the deal Zion could get approximately \$25,000 at the apparent price.

The Hummelstown Historical Society sent a letter saying they want a firm to evaluate the Parish House. They would like to look at the one done by architect Steve Tucker.

New Business:

-Annual Committee reports are due to the office by February 1st.

-Heidi Chan resigned from council.

-The annual congregation meeting is set for February 22nd at 9:00A.M

Adjournment:

A motion was made by LuAnn Doyle and seconded by Pastor Wenrich to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM

Council then stood and prayed together the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Good
Secretary