

**Zion Lutheran Church**  
Hummelstown, Pennsylvania  
CHURCH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the March 19, 2009 Meeting

Regular Council Meeting:

Howard Andrews	Charles Will
Lori Beaver	Deacon Marsha Roscoe
Lynn Danilowicz	Pastor Darlis Swan
LuAnn Doyle	George Riddle, Pres.
Chris Ehman	David Myers, V. Pres.
Liz Joyce	Michael Good, Sec.
Deb Kepner	Nancy Hartman, Finance
Jill Kiessling	Pastor Thomas McKee
Bonnie Rudi	John Alwine, New Council
Don Sheaffer	Ed Engle, New Council
	Greg Seitz, New Council
	Robert Kautz, Observer

Excused Absence:

Liz Joyce, Jill Kiessling

Call to Order:

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

Devotions and Prayer Concerns:

Mike Good read a selection from "Guidepost" magazine about the power of prayer in everyday life. Pastor Swan then gave a prayer.

Adoption of Agenda:

The agenda was presented for inspection by President George Riddle. Bonnie Rudi requested that "communication" be added to the agenda. The motion to approve the agenda was made by Dave Myers. It was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the last Regular Congregation Council Meeting dated January 15, 2009, and the special Council Meeting dated February 19, 2009 were submitted by Council Secretary Michael Good. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Charles Will and seconded by Lori Beaver. It was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Communications:

There was a request for readers to help with the Palm Sunday liturgy. There was also a letter from John Long, a fairly recent new member, who expressed his support for Council and his trust for their decision making in church matters. There was also a communication from Dr. Alan Wenrich about his request for his sabbatical. After discussion about how much time, if any, Dr. Wenrich is owed.

Chris Ehman made a motion to reject Dr. Wenrich's request for two week's vacation pay. It was seconded by Charles Will. It was approved by unanimous voice vote.

There was also a request from Sarah Rudi of the "Lantern on the Hill" program for any funds possible for her organization. A Sunday in April is being set aside as "Mission Sunday" to raise money for various mission programs. Sarah will receive some funds from this effort.

Senior Pastor's Report:

Darlis J. Swan                      February 20 – March 19, 2009

Highlights and Concerns:

Serving as Interim Head of Staff  
The health and healing of Zion  
Strong support of the People of Zion for the continuing ministry  
The resiliency as well as the vulnerability of the Community at Zion – especially staff  
The power of Christ's presence in Word and sacrament – especially baptism

Pastoral Contacts:

Hospital Calls 10  
Home Calls  
Office Appts. 4

Pastoral Acts:

Teaching "Stations of the Cross" – Eat 'n Pray 3/18  
Preside at worship 9  
Preach 4  
Baptisms Jarrett Michael Kern 3/1  
Weddings rehearsals  
Weddings  
Funerals Sarah Pringle 2/26

Administrative Acts:

Meetings Attended 18  
Continuing Education "Retreat on Lenten Disciplines" –Society of the Holy Trinity - St. Paul's Lutheran, Millersburg, PA

Churchwide Involvement:

Lower Susquehanna Synod ELCA -Ecumenical and Inter – Religious Affairs  
Committee 3/4

Other:

Diaconal Minister's Report:

Name: Marsha Roscoe Dates: Feb 19 – March 17

Highlights and Concerns:

VBS Kick-off meeting was a huge success with close to 40 people there. Pleasantly surprised by the initiative and enthusiasm of the volunteers.



#### Treasurer's Report:

Finance Committee's Nancy Hartman reported that income year – to – date is \$60,801.00. It is about \$500.00 less than the proposed budget. Attendance is down by 335 people in 2009, but giving per person is up. The AIB stock was sold in March, the \$1700.00 from the canceled Women's Retreat will come from the discretionary fund. We are behind by about \$2,000.00 for the year, much of it due to timing matters.

#### Budgeted:

Revenue – The amount of revenue from envelopes was reduced by \$10,000.00. Allied Irish Bank stock was sold at 80cents per share. Total estimated revenue is \$466,900.00.

Expenditures – Money for Pastor Mueller's salary was taken from the proposed salary for the Senior Pastor. There is no extra money needed for Pastor Mueller. All money for Continuing Education, except for \$500.00 for Deacon Roscoe, was cut from the budget. Travel expenses were reduced. These must be documented.

Pastor Swan has been switched to a contracted employee for 40 hours per week. There is no salary increase included for staff. This will mean a savings of about \$8,000.00.

There was discussion about whether or not we need the numbers of pastors we now have. Pastor Wenrich said he needed a third pastor for 20 hours per week to help lighten his work load. It was felt that there needs to be some accountability for the hours worked. It was also asked if there is a way Council can find out from Synod if we are overstaffed. Also discussed was what the Diaconal Minister was permitted to do. A substantial amount of money would be saved if no raises were given, and the position of Bridge Pastor was eliminated. It was decided to postpone further discussion on personnel salaries.

There was a proposed cut in funds for the Youth Groups. Fund raising would have to greatly increase if this occurs. Chris Ehman made a motion to restore \$750.00 to each Youth Group category. The second was given by Howard Andrews. Approval was voiced to the motion.

Amounts Budgeted for the following items were also reduced: Evangelism, Contingency, Repairs and Maintenance, Office Equipment, Service contracts, Seminary Student, and Synod.

A motion was made by Lori Beaver to cut in half the amount designated for the Seminary Student from the Undesignated Memorial Fund. After the second was made discussion followed. Chris Ehman made a motion to table the previous motion. Lynn Danilowicz seconded, and it was approved by unanimous voice vote.

#### Investment Committee:

The motion was submitted by the Committee to sell all remaining stocks owned by Zion and use the money to purchase index funds. The motion was made by Don Sheaffer and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Due to the length of time devoted to the Budget discussion, the regular Committee Reports were dispensed with. However, Charles Will of Property Committee reported that because of extremely rotted wood there will be an extra \$9,000.00 needed to repair the Bell Tower.

There was a recommendation from Property Acquisition Committee that the Committee be renamed the Strategic Properties Committee. It was seconded by LuAnn Doyle and was approved by unanimous voice vote.

There was also a recommendation by the same committee that appraisals be done on 105 W. Main Street and 111 W. Main Street(Chapel) so council has accurate knowledge of the value of the assets in order to make informed decisions on behalf of the congregation. It was seconded by Lori Beaver and was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Old Business:**

The installation of new Council members will be on Sunday, April 19 at the 10:45AM service.

The special Congregational Meeting will be postponed due to Budget matters.

**New Business:**

The next meeting will be April 16, 2009, at 7:00PM.

**Adjournment:**

The council stood to pray together the Lord's Prayer. The motion to adjourn was made by Don Sheaffer and seconded by Lynn Danilowicz. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Good  
Council Secretary