

Our Saviour's Evangelical Lutheran Church of East Bethel
19001 Jackson Street Northeast
Thursday, January 12, 2012
Monthly church council meeting in the Music Room

Minutes to be approved at the February meeting

President Sherry Allenspach called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

Members present: Greg McGarry, Pastor Maria Pederson, Cathy Leipzig, Lois Mayabb, Fran Munday, Patrick Bresnahan, Mike Richgels, Pastor Brian Fragodt, Mike Roark, Ben Bjornson, Sue Liemohn, Gary Kortemeier, Susan Fanucci

Members excused: Tim Leighton, Gail Bloxham

Visitors: Cindy Delmonico, Kay Carlson

Gary Kortemeier led devotions using chapter 21 of What Really Matters.

Pastor Brian Fragodt led the discussion on chapters 11-12 of It.

Secretary's Report: Greg McGarry made a motion to approve the December minutes as written. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Greg McGarry reported that the church year ended with \$47,163 in the reserve fund.

Mike Roark made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as written. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: Sherry Allenspach reported that three items were being added to the January agenda. Greg McGarry made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Long Range Planning: Pastor Brian reported that the committee wants all council members to review the hand out. Each council member is then requested to meet with the group that is the council member's liaison assignment and engage those group members in a discussion using the handed out questions.

March 8th all council members are requested to bring the results of the discussions to the council meeting. Pastor Brian will e-mail all the questions to each council member and the questions can then be sent to the members of the various committees.

Sunday School: Cathy Leipzig reported that the Basket Auction and the pancake breakfast raised \$1600.

There will be a sledding party in February. The Sunday School youth are going to be sponsoring a child from Compassion International.

Preschool: Gary Kortemeier reported that the preschool is now operating in the “black”.

Human Resources: The committee will be reviewing the policies for sick leave and vacation.

Social Ministries: Pastor Maria Pederson reported that there will be a “women’s” retreat on Saturday, February 25 from 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Cost will be \$15. Glenndy Osi from the synod office will be present and she is an excellent speaker.

Old Business:

Ministry Center: no news

Cindy Delmonico reported that the fire sprinkler system is now working at the Jackson Street site.

City water and sewer: no news. A suggestion was made to “keep our options open”. Maybe we could trade the Ministry Center to the City of East Bethel for payment on the sewer line to the Jackson Street site. However, that suggestion will not work because of the details of the mortgage on the Ministry Center. (All money from the sale of the Ministry Center will go directly to the bank to pay off the existing mortgage because the Ministry Center is part of the collateral package for the mortgage.)

Financial Peace University: Greg McGarry thanked Cindy, the staff, Patrick, and the Hard Hats for all their help. So far 4 couples have signed up. The cost of the course is being lowered to \$79 per couple to make it more attractive and perhaps more couples will sign up.

Celebration moments were shared.

New Business:

Mail: none

Finance fees for dedicated accounts: Susan Fanucci made a motion that no finance fees will be subtracted from any dedicated accounts. Motion was seconded. Discussion followed. Susan Fanucci explained that when she requested the check for the wells in Nigeria she found that in the past four years \$80 had been taken out of the Nigerian Mission Fund and paid to the general fund as finance fees for maintaining that account. Kay Carlson explained that ¼ of one percent is taken out of each dedicated fund balance every three months. That is 1% per year with a maximum fee of \$40 per year. Kay Carlson explained the original intent of the fee was to cut down on the number of dedicated accounts that have money that was never spent and/or used. The fees that were collected (from the dedicated accounts) were then used as a payment back to the dedicated accounts for the money that had been borrowed by the general fund from the

dedicated accounts years ago. Currently the general fund owes the dedicated accounts over \$34,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Ben Bjornson, Greg McGarry, Gary Kortemeier, Patrick Bresnahan, and Susan Fanucci volunteered to be on a committee to write the guidelines for creating and maintaining a dedicated account.

Continuing resolutions of the constitution: Pastor Brian Fragodt reported that Ellen Kramm has been reviewing the church constitution and by-laws. She had a couple suggestions.

1. A continuing resolution is an item that has been approved by the council. The current continuing resolution states "the congregation council shall use the proceeds of the sale of the Ministry Center property for capital expansion at the Jackson Street site, with the exception of a congregational vote to use funds in an emergency situation". This resolution contradicts our mortgage agreement with the bank. According to the mortgage agreement, money from the sale of the Ministry Center will be used to pay off the mortgage. The Executive Team made a motion to change the wording of the continuing resolution to "the Congregational Council shall use the proceeds from the sale of the Ministry Center property to pay the existing debt. Any remaining capital shall be used for capital expansion." Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
2. A continuing resolution is needed pertaining to signatures on legal documents. Sue Liehmon made a motion for a new continuing resolution which states "congregational legal documents requiring a signature shall be signed by the president and one other officer, unless the Congregation Council authorizes other signors in a particular situation". Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Many thanks to Ellen Kramm for her expertise in constitutional matters and the many, many hours she has worked on this.

New Sign: Mike Richgels reported that the church sign on the corner of County 22 and Jackson Street is very weathered. Funds have already been donated for a new sign. The bottom of the new sign will be one foot higher than the bottom of the existing sign. That will place it level with the roadbed on County 22. Signage will be on both sides with a lockable plexi-glass cover. There will be a black directional arrow. The top of the sign will be nine feet above the ground. The sign will be vented so moisture will not collect under the plexi-glass. The cost of the new sign will be \$6500 and \$6000 has already been donated. A mock sign will be created and donations will be requested to cover the remaining cost of the new sign. Mike Roark and Cindy Delmonico are working on the color scheme. The Hard Hat will install the sign when it arrives.

Devotions for February: Lois Mayabb
Goodies for February: Cathy Leipzig

Mike Roark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Fanucci

