

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of East Bethel  
19001 Jackson Street Northeast  
East Bethel, Minnesota 55011

Thursday, June 9, 2011

6:30 p.m. monthly church council meeting in the music room

Members present: Pastor Brian Fragodt, Gail Bloxham, Kasondra Day, Patrick Breshnahan, Ben Bjornson, Sue Liemohn, Michael Roark, Sherry Allenspach, Fran Munday, Lois Mayabb, Tom Olson, Susan Fanucci

Members excused: Gary Kortimeier, Becky Beck

Guests: Kay Carlson, Cindy Delmonico, Ellen Kramm

Michael Roark led devotions on Chapter 14 of What Really Matters.

President Tom Olson called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Ellen Kramm asked for any suggestions about the combining of the constitution, the by-laws, and the continuing resolutions. On page 82, numbers 3, 4, and 5 were changed to C, D, and E. A congregational vote is only required when the intent or use of a fund is going to be changed. No vote is needed when just changing the numbering or lettering of items. If anyone knows anything about changes made within the last ten years to the Endowment Fund and the dispersing of funds please contact Pres. Tom Olson or Ellen Kramm. Any item in the new document that has an asterisk next to it is dictated to Our Saviour's by the ELCA and that item cannot be changed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the minutes as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mutual Ministry Team: Fran Munday reported that the committee has been meeting with the pastors and supporting them.

Property: Patrick Breshnahan reported that the Hard Hats have finished putting rock around the base of the fountain. Tim Holtz donated the granite. Fifty trees have been planted. The watering system is being checked. Three water spigots are being installed around the mound. Grass seed has been planted at the Chapel. Mowing is being done.

Garden Team: The team weeds every Tuesday. Anyone is welcome to come and help.

Stewardship: Greg McGarry reported there has been discussion about the fall campaign, a founders club, and possible fundraisers such as selling building bonds to be used for Phase 2 building. Jason Moehring teaches a “Money Matters” class that teaches folks how to be more financially stable.

Tom Olson led a discussion on Chapter 4 of How Churches and Leaders Can Get It and Keep It. The council and the staff are both reading this book. Pastor Brian suggested after both groups have read the book that everyone meet for a ½ day workshop facilitated by a non-council or non-staff person. The council is requested to read chapter 5 for the July meeting and come with an answer to the question, “If Our Saviour’s could do only one thing in ministry, what would it be?”

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Sherry Allenspach reported that all bills are paid at this time. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the treasurer’s report. Attendance is down from 2010. Nationally attendance is down at the majority of denominational churches. Sue Liemohn will set up a meeting time to discuss how we can reach more people in the community. Sherry Allenspach requested suggestions of how to make up the next fiscal year’s budget. Conversations with Council: June 12<sup>th</sup> the pastors will announce the council is looking for ideas and suggestions for making up the budget and that council members will be in the gathering area after the service. It was suggested that a notice be put in the bulletin thanking members for paying their pledges ahead. The finance committee wants to know what pieces are the priorities. Suggestions to consider included:

1. Pastor Brian suggested eliminating the youth orchestra position and have youth Sunday’s periodically Instead.
2. Reinstating the 10% staff reduction
3. Reinstating senior choir and the membership positions
4. Filling the small group coordinator position
5. Adding another ½ time pastoral position

Program directors are very conscious of the limited funds available and are being very frugal in their cost assessments for the next year. Preschool is requesting that all or part of the director’s salary be paid by the general fund since it was added as a church ministry in 2005. The council may have to look at trimming back some items.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Ministry Center update: Pres. Tom Olson reported that Paul Ekstrom stated that there has been no movement on the Ministry Center. There is still one group using the Ministry Center and that needs to be stopped. Boy Scouts are frequently looking for volunteer projects and they might be available to help move things.

Marble Altar: At the March council meeting a motion was made, seconded and passed to find a dry storage space for the original marble altar of the Ministry Center that is still in the Ministry Center. It would be in storage until Phase 2 is completed. A request for a storage space will be in the bulletin as a min. op.

Many celebration moments were shared.

MAIL BAG: empty

NEW BUSINESS:

Pamphlets “Living with Disabilities” from the ELCA were passed out.

The effects of the heavy rains at the church a couple weeks ago were discussed.

Fundraising: There has been the perception that some groups have an “in” with staff and get many and the desirable weekends to host coffee and goodies after the services. Therefore, a policy has been written that limits two fundraisers per Sunday including hosting hospitality. June 19<sup>th</sup> will be a meeting to sign up for hospitality. The coffee bar and monthly Fair Trade Coffee are not considered fundraisers. During the summer many weekends have no group serving hospitality. When no one signs up, the staff person manning the desk also has to make the coffee and serve the donuts or cookies. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to approve the new fundraiser policy.

Drug testing: There is a new Minnesota law stating that any group using a bus and driver must have a random drug testing policy. Cindy Delmonico is looking into this. This item needs to be put into the budget as there is a \$40 charge for the policy and \$100 per driver randomly tested.

Devotions: Cindy Delmonico

Goodies: Cindy Delmonico

9:25 p.m. a motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Fanucci