

Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Pittsford, NY

Sunday, January 28th, 2007



Council President Mike Jordan called the meeting to order at 10:31 am and reviewed the agenda.

Pastor Hedin declared a quorum as 67 members signed the attendance sheet. Pastor Hedin led the devotional and reviewed the Roberts Rules of Order.

2006 Meeting Minutes - Ron Uhlig made a **MOTION** to accept the minutes from the 2006 Annual Congregational Meeting as submitted in the 2007 Annual Report which was **APPROVED** unanimously.

Nomination of new Council Members - Laura Patchen nominated Michael Patchen to serve as Council members. Sue Comer asked to continue to be included as a Council member. Ron Uhlig made a **MOTION** that the new Council members be accepted which was **APPROVED** unanimously. Virginia Pschirrer asked for the nominations from the floor to be repeated and spelled. Mike Jordan repeated the nominations.

Budget – Bill Wallace presented an overview of the 2007 budget. He commented that last year was one of the best years financially we have had in quite some time. Last year's proposed \$62K deficit was reduced to \$28K.

Total assets dropped from \$376K to \$292K due to paying the mortgage and to close the deficit. \$39K budgeted for the Capital Appeal is the remaining amount that was pledged. \$213K was budgeted income however actual income for 2006 was \$239K.

Benevolence remains a percent of income which is why the actual amount given in 2006 was higher than budgeted. A 3.3% increase in salary was given to three staff members. The overall budget for 2007 is \$275 which is a 2.9% increase from 2006. Bill Wallace then began to review the details of 2006 expenses and 2007 Projections.

Carol Hammer asked how the church youth coordinator salary was computed. Bill explained that we separated the three positions of Assistant Minister of Music, LYO Coordinator, and Youth Choir Director. Rob Laird has requested to no longer hold the LYO Coordinator position. Pastor broke the salary down for the youth coordinator as approximately 20hrs/month.

Pastor mentioned that his Social Security should read \$4954. Ron Uhlig made a **MOTION** to **AMEND** the budget to reflect this change of amount in Social Security budgeted for Pastor was **APPROVED** unanimously. John Heiman questioned how the rest of the staff salaries had gone up but their Social Security had gone down. Bill Wallace acknowledged that the numbers needed to be reviewed and Pastor Hedin continued to work on the Social Security figures while Bill Wallace continued the review of the budget. Pastor calculated Social Security at 7.65% of salary. Figure should read \$5433 for employees, an increase of \$288 from the proposed budget, for a total of \$40,296 for staff benefits. John Heiman made a **MOTION** to **AMEND** the budget to reflect the change in amount of Social Security allocated for employees was **APPROVED** unanimously.

As Bill Wallace finished his review of the details of the budget Gary Schwartzbauer reiterated that from a maintenance perspective that funds from our new Appeal Campaign will be used to finance large projects such as repaving the parking lot.

Bill Wallace commented how pleased he was that we have received almost 100% of pledged money towards the building project.

The sub-total with mortgage number was changed to reflect the total increase in Social Security.

Elizabeth Conderman asked how the Youth Choir Director salary was calculated. Bill Wallace answered that the time was approximately ½ hour a week equates to \$40/hr. Pastor Hedin added that more discussion is needed as far as outcome of job description.

MOTION on the floor to accept the amended 2007 budget for the sub-total of \$276,422, plus \$82,000 in mortgage payments for a total 2007 budget of \$358,502 was **APPROVED** unanimously.

Kairos Update – Claudia Foti spoke of the success of the building project and giving. We still have more funds to continue to raise so a new Capital Appeal will be taking place. Claudia listed the officers who would lead as directors of the new Appeal. There is a Case Statement in the process of being written and a new logo and look to the campaign is as well. Reverend Renee LiaBraaten will be leading the group as the representative Kairos consultant. Included in the new campaign will be opportunities to close the budget gap as well.

John Heiman commented that he was concerned we are looking at a great deficit in funds to pay mortgage payments. Bill Wallace indicated that we still have \$200K in funds from the first campaign that we will use to continue to pay the mortgage. We will have one pledge this year to cover the budget and mortgage together. If we could we could raise enough funds to pay \$100K/year for the next 4 years a considerable amount could be saved in interest by \$300K and time from 30 years to less than 15 years.

Virginia Pschirrer asked if we could produce a chart of some kind that would reflect the reduction of the deficit by increasing personal giving by 1%, 2%, 3% etc. Bill Wallace commented that an increase of 10% in the average family giving would be enough to close last year's gap.

New Hymnals – Less than 10 new ELW hymnals need to be purchased. We should have these new hymnals for Lent. Looks to be a hymnal for all and is organized seasonally, multi-cultural and diverse in language within hymnal selections.

Pastor's Comments – Pastor acknowledged the great year we have had as well as the work of Church Council members, and staff members Janet Harris, Chris Petit, Rob Laird, Ash, and Miss Kiss as wonderful stable staff members. Pastor thanked those who serve on committees, volunteers, and the behind the scene people. Ron Uhlig spoke about how the service is now being recorded and broadcast on the website. Please contact the church if you know of anyone who benefit from receiving the service recordings on a portable MP3 player. Pastor reiterated to take this time to review your % giving increase as your financial situations improve.

Dave Pepler spoke of the benefits of using Simply Giving and urged the congregation to take advantage of this program.

The I wish/I like cards were explained and Mike Jordan commented how the cards were used by Council as an action item list for the coming year.

Laura Patchen asked if there was a timeline for hiring and implementing the new LYO Coordinator. Pastor stated that by Ash Wednesday we will have made a staff choice.

Council Action Summary Vote – Pastor spoke of the recent passing of George Harris and his yearly contribution to the Annual Meeting when he would stand and propose that the actions of the Church Council for the year be approved. Al Herpich stood and made the **MOTION**, in George’s memory, to approve the actions of the Church Council for 2006, which was **APPROVED** unanimously.

George will be greatly missed.

MOTION to adjourn, **APPROVED** unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Minutes respectively submitted,

C. Scott Conderman
Recording Secretary