

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

DATE: December 15th 2008 – 6:45pm

Present:

Mara Berndt, Gary Foti, Bill Wallace, Chris Coffey, Pastor Hedin, Dave Pepler, Mike Patchen, Gary Schwartzbauer, Scott Conderman,

Next meeting: January 12th 2008 – 6:45pm



I. Beginning Business

- Introduction – Scott Conderman led the devotional telling the story of how the new scenes in the Christmas Pageant came about as a lesson in listening to your little voice; it is usually right. A quorum was declared and the minutes from December's meeting were approved as written.

II. Reports & Action Plan review (separate document)

- Action Plan Review – The Long Range Planning Committee will be included in the development of the new annual survey (revised I/Wish/I Like). Dates for the bi-annual Council Open Forums were decided (plan: March 16th hold: March 22nd, plan: October 19th hold: October 25th). We will be contacting Devon Berg and our bank to explore possible refinance options for the mortgage.
- Financial Report – At this point in November's numbers we are looking at a \$18K deficit, however the end of year giving is usually very strong and the deficit should be reduced further. The remainder of the report is outlined in the budget discussion section of the minutes.
- Pastor's Report – Thank you to all who have and will contribute to this year's Christmas festivities and services at St. Paul's. Pastor made a **MOTION** that if the Snyder funds exceed the anticipated \$15K by at least \$750, as per 2007; Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center will receive \$500 from the Snyder funds and Saints Place of Pittsford will receive \$250 from the Snyder funds was **APPROVED**. The housing allowance in 2009 for Pastor is \$30,000.
- Office Report – All annual reports from Council members are due by December 28th via email. Check the 2009 Council Profile for any changes. Thank you!

III. Old Business - Updates

- Community Benevolence Fund – Pastor made a **MOTION** to donate \$500 to the Eastern Service Workers from the Community Benevolence fund, Gary F. made an **AMENDMENT** to increase the amount to \$700, and both were **APPROVED** unanimously.

IV. New Business

- Sexton Salary – a **MOTION** to raise the Sexton salary to \$9.50 per hour beginning January 1st was **APPROVED**.

V. Annual Budget

- Discussion on the percentage given annually to Synod Benevolence generated a **MOTION** to keep the Synod Benevolence for 2009 at 16.5%, but with monitoring via quarterly reviews by Council during the year was **APPROVED**. This increased the budget line from \$33,000 to \$36,407.
- The Sexton salary was increased as per New Business above which brought the entire budget from \$371,693 to \$375,526. This number is only a 1% increase from the budget approved last year.
- Council looked at remaining budget to anticipate questions from the congregation and entertained the idea of presenting the budget from the perspective of Programs and Categories.
- A **MOTION** to approve the proposed budget as modified was **APPROVED**.