

**OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
November 14, 2011**

PRESENT: Pastor Maurice Schaus, Shannon Cortright, Shirley Mitchell, Rebecca Burgener, Carie Truckey, Dan Szulczewski, Tina Kiefer, Russ Leyk, Cindy Wilson, Charlotte Peters, and Patti Lutzke

EXCUSED: Norm Hanson

ABSENT: Anne Torkelson

Meeting called to order by Russ Leyk.

As part of Devotions, Pastor Schaus handed out a worksheet for Council members to review and rank their values as a Council member and co-worker. This exercise was for Council members to take a self-examination on how to support the congregation of Our Saviour's and to encourage a partnership between the Council members and the church congregation.

The Secretary's report was reviewed. Pastor Schaus noted that the minutes should be amended to reflect "as part of Devotions" rather than "In lieu of Devotions". Rebecca moved to accept the Secretary's report with that amendment. The motion was seconded by Shannon, and the motion passed.

The Financial report was reviewed. Discussion was held regarding Benevolence breakdown. No Council action taken at this time. Shirley moved to accept the Financial report. Tina seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Team Reports:

Christian Education

Shannon requested that if there is a publication request, that it should be run through the Christian Education Team to track the cost and use of the materials. Shannon also reported that there will be no change in the Christian Education budget request for 2012.

Outreach

Patti reported that the Outreach OSLC Hunger Potluck was successful raising \$220. The Team will be meeting the week of November 21 to discuss Thanksgiving baskets or possibly a community-wide effort to help build relationships outside of Our Saviour's, as well as being able to reach out to more people.

Property & Maintenance

Discussion was held regarding concealed weapons notification. The subject was tabled so that the situation can be monitored. Discussion was held regarding parsonage repairs. The light fixture in the parsonage kitchen needs to be addressed immediately. Russ will contact Al regarding the issue.

Stewardship

A Thrivent Dessert Feast is scheduled for January 2012. No Council action required at this time.

Worship & Music

Pastor Schaus reported there will be Christmas Eve services held at 4:00, 7:00, and 10:30. Pastor has requested that team/committees/youth groups be challenged to take responsibility for a specific aspect of the Christmas decorating of the church.

Youth & Family

No Council action needed.

Carie moved to accept the Team reports and Patti seconded the motion, and the motion was passed.

Pastor's Report

New members transferred in: Karen Nocco, Larissa Millis, Andrea Heller and her son, Prestin Dashek. Charlotte moved to accept new members. Dan seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Pastor will be preaching at the Merrill Community Thanksgiving service being held at St. Stephen's on November 20, 2011, at 6:30.

Other Business

Teams are reminded to have their annual reports turned into the church office by January 11, 2012. If the reports can be e-mailed, that would be preferred. Rebecca will put reminders in the Team mailboxes.

Discussion was held regarding the annual meeting. Carie moved that the annual meeting be held Wednesday, January 25, 2012. The meal is to begin at 5:30 with the meeting to follow at 6:30. Charlotte seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Discussion was held regarding what to serve for the meal and possibly having the youth involved in serving the meal, clean-up, etc. Discussion tabled until December Council meeting.

"Mission a Month"

Pastor Schaus explained that "Mission a Month" involved the church focusing on a specific outreach effort each month, such as Crossways Lutheran Campus Ministries, World Hunger Relief, Food Pantry, Deacon's Fund, etc. Discussion was held regarding a monthly effort versus a quarterly effort. Council members are to research the issue. Discussion tabled until next meeting

Nominating Committee

Russ will discuss with Carie the procedure for contacting the Nominating Committee.

Old Business

Rebecca checked to see if there was a policy and procedures guideline for use of the church building and could not find any such policy and procedures guideline. Pastor suggested May 2012 as a goal to come up with a policy and procedures policy for the use of the church premises.

Carie and Rebecca were excused from the meeting.

Executive Committee Minutes

A review of the Executive Committee minutes was conducted. Pastor Schaus noted that the minutes should be amended to reflect "Gift-Based Ministry" versus Need-Based Ministry" in lieu of "Faith-Based Ministry versus "Gift-Based Ministry." Also, the minutes are to reflect that the staff is doing an outstanding job. Discussion was held regarding the 2012 salary recommendations. Dan moved to accept the salary recommendations and Patti seconded the motion. After further discussion regarding the salaries, Shirley moved to amend the motion to reflect an adjustment in the custodian's salary. Tina seconded the motion to amend the motion to reflect the custodian's salary. Pastor Schaus abstained from voting. The motion was passed.

Discussion held regarding the 2012 financial budget. A preliminary draft of the financial budget for 2012 will be presented to the congregation the Sunday preceding the annual meeting for members to review the budget with the Finance Board. Any questions can then be addressed at that time.

Charlotte moved to adjourn the meeting and Dan seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted:

Cynthia Wilson
Church Council Secretary