OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING
January 10, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Brenda Mueller	Pr Beth
	Shirley Mitchell	Dan Szulczewski
	Rebekah Murphy	Carie Truckey
	Mary Fischer	Tina Kiefer
	Rebecca Burgener	

MEMBERS EXCUSED:	Arlene Bagley	Shannon Cortright
	Allen Handlin	Jolene Johnson-VanDenElzen

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by President, Carie Truckey.

DEVOTIONS: Pr. Beth Macha shared a brief reading out of Numbers, Chapter 11 about journeys and how they illicit negative reactions. For those that have participated in the healthy congregations series, we know that is when we must be strongest.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:
The minutes of the December 13th, 2010 Congregation Council meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Shirley Mitchell and seconded by Rebecca Burgener to approve the Secretary's Report. Motion passed.

CONGREGATION FINANCIAL REPORT/TREASURE'S REPORT:
The Financial Stewardship Team and Treasurer's Report minutes were reviewed. As of 31 December 2010, the Undesignated BC Ziegler Fund has a balance of $19,457.37, and the Designated BC Ziegler Memorial Money Market Fund has a balance of $15,563.64. As of 31 December 2010, the Designated Memorial Checking account had a balance of $41,881.94. The Loan balance as of 31 December 2010 was $0.00.
At the end of November the general fund checking account had a balance of $7,795.07. 2010 benevolence of nearly $20,000 has been paid in full. $5,500 of fair stand profits was used in December to make necessary expense payments to end the year in the black.
A motion was made by Mary Fischer and seconded by Rebecca Burgener to approve the Financial/Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

A recommendation was made by the Council to request that the Miscellaneous Unpaid Claims, with a long-term payable include a date to be paid
Council Action Requested by the Financial Stewardship Team: Request council allows the team to seek a local firm to take over the management of the Ziegler accounts. Discussion followed about this subject and also the potential for conflict of interest if someone within the congregation fulfilled this role. It was agreed to solicit bids for this service. Members of the congregation will be considered without prejudice based on services provided and fees charged.

A motion was made by Dan Szulczewski and seconded by Rebekah Murphy to allow the Financial Stewardship Team to solicit bids in response to this council action request. Motion passed.

STANDING TEAM REPORTS:
There was no December Outreach report; there was no meeting since the last Council meeting.
A motion was made by Rebecca Burgener and seconded by Mary Fischer to accept the Standing Team Reports. Motion passed.

PASTOR AND STAFF REPORT:

Report from Rev. Beth Macha, Interim Pastor
December 1-31, 2010

Narrative Information for Council:

1. The Sunday morning session of the "Healthy Congregations" is finished, and the Tuesday evening session is nearly finished. I am running a third class on the Sundays in January. From among these classes, there will be about 30 people from this congregation who are being trained in the "Healthy Congregations" program. Hopefully, this will lead to a healthier future for this congregation.
2. I led Wednesday evening Advent worship services this year. Prior to this, there had been no record of attendance numbers, but we kept track this year. We had between 6 and 12 at any of those services, so I will be recommending to the Worship & Music team that this congregation not hold them next year.
3. I arranged for 2 mock interview candidates to meet with the call committee and now my role is completed with them.
4. I am working on a sermon series for the season of Epiphany called "People of the Light," utilizing stories about inspirational people who lived out their faith and touched the lives of other people in various ways.
5. Since I started as the interim pastor here on February 1, 2010, I have been averaging 62.5 hours a week doing ministry work for this congregation.

For Council Review/Action:

Goals for the Next Month:
Continue the Healthy Congregations short courses

Statistics:
Meetings with one or more staff 7
Meetings with Committees/Leaders 5
Denominational/Area Clergy Meetings 0
Pastoral Contacts 52
(Office visits, Hospital visits, Home or Shut-in Visits, Counseling, Premarital, Funeral Planning, etc.)
Funerals/Graveside Services 1
Weddings/Vow Renewals 0
Classes Taught/Bible Studies Led. 12
Lectionary/Text Study Group attended 4
Worship Services Led . . . . . 18 Preached at . . . . . 17 services

Vacation:
Taken This Month . . . . . 0 weeks, 4 days
Year to Date . . . . . 4 weeks, 0 days
Remaining this Year . . . . . 0 weeks, 0 days

Upcoming Vacation Planned:
None

Continuing Education:
Taken This Month . . . . . None

Year to Date:
"Digging into the Word" on May 20
Theological Conference October 11-13
Money Matters on October 24

Upcoming Planned Cont. Ed. Events:

Transfers Out:
Fred, Angie, & Katrina Grambort and Lillian Hanneman to New Day Christian Church, Weston

BUSINESS:

Nominating Committee for 2011

- The Team leader, Dennis indicates those intending to stand for election is coming together nicely. Most all of the auxiliary positions standing for election have sufficient members standing for election to fill available slots. There are four members that are standing for Council position election at this time.

A Mutual Ministry Team

- Reference material was provided by Shirley Mitchell and reviewed with the Council.
- Based on the discussions that took place, it was recommended that a vote to remove Section 13.04 Staff Support Team from the Constitution.
  - The 1st vote will be brought up at the annual business meeting.
- The wording of a resolution to add a Mutual Ministry Team to the Continuing Resolutions was finalized. It will be drafted in the Continuing Resolutions for review and vote by the Council at the February meeting.

Documenting a Deacon's Fund Program

- Tina and Carie will work on an outline of a Program to be discussed at the next Council meeting. An invitation to the congregation was not successful in recruiting assistance to work on this project.

Conflict of Interest Policy

- The draft policy was revised and discussed by the Council. The shell of the policy was adopted from the ELCA website.
- This document will be posted on the website for easy review and access.
- This document will be reviewed on an annual basis by all staff members, volunteers, Team and Council members.

A motion was made by Rebecca Burgener and seconded by Shirley Mitchell to approve the Conflict of Interest Policy as outlined and to adopt the document with today's effective date. Motion passed.

Parsonage Update

- A Team consisting of Carl Theorin, John Hagedorn, Gail Abeggelen and Jeff Peterson have agreed to review options available for the parsonage.
- A report of the findings and recommendations were not available for review at this Council meeting.
- The recommendations will be available at the next Council meeting.

Call Committee Update

Mary Fischer indicates that interviews have begun. The Committee is active, engaged and very focused in the process and the responsibilities they have been charged with.

- Two interviews have been conducted as of today, with another scheduled for January 11th and either one or two more to be conducted prior to review and analysis to determine if second interviews will be conducted.
- We wish the Committee continued success and our grateful support in their efforts.
- By unanimous vote, Mary Fischer will continue to be the liaison between the Council and the Call Committee after the end of her Council commitment effective today.

Audit Committee

Marlene has indicated she needs one or two members to complete the audit function of the financial accounting of our Church.

- Carie was provide with a list of four names. She will contact them and see if they are willing to assist in this function.

Church Mutual Property/Liability Renewal

A meeting between our Account Manager, Beth Kroeger and Carie Truckey and Ray Truckey (an insurance professional) was conducted on the 30th of December 2010 in preparation of the policy renewal effective February 1st, 2011.

- After review, minor changes limited to eliminating coverage for parsonage contents that is not required, increasing coverage of property coverage at the Fairstand and changing "special coverage" days to Christmas and Fair Week were made at that the time of the meeting. These changes yielded a policy reduction in the amount of $54 annually.
- **Council Action Requested in Response to Other Account Mgr Recommendations**
    - Increase the General/HNO/Counseling limit from $1mil/$3mil to $2mil/$5mil. The increased cost $92 annually.
    - Drop the $1mil Umbrella Policy as it becomes redundant if the recommendation listed above is approved. The only item not covered is owned auto liability which our Church does not own. This is a reduction in cost of $350 annually.
        - The net changes of these two items is $258 annual savings.
    - Increase the income loss/expense extension from $10,000 to $100,000 in the event of loss of use and resulting drop in member contributions. (in response to a fire or other such type of event). The increased cost is $99 annually.

A motion was made by Shirley Mitchell and seconded by Dan Szuczewski to approve the recommended changes in the policy for as outlined above. Motion passed.

- Additional information discovered as a result of the meeting between the Account Manager and OSLC representatives.
    - Ensure any significant changes in the structure of the facility be reported to insurance carrier as timely as possible after they occur.
        - A list of the changes will be assembled by Tim and be forwarded to the carrier as soon as possible to reflect current conditions.
    - A service is available to OSLC through Church Mutual to complete background checks as necessary. The initial set-up fee is waived and each check is between $5 and $7 dollars.
        - See Rebecca Burgener for any background checks that need to be conducted to support Church business.
    - Lay persons are covered under the Counseling Coverage section of our liability.
    - Contents of each room should be videotaped or recorded electronically annually. Information should be stored off-site.
    - An annual review with the Account Manager should be conducted by a member of the congregation with a strong insurance background. A report should be made available for the Council, Financial Stewardship Team and the Property & Maintenance Team.
        - If you are interested, please contact Carie Truckey.

Annual Meeting
Plans for the meal at the annual meeting were discussed. A signup sheet is located outside the Lounge. The Congregation Annual Meeting will be January 26, 2011.

Council Retreat
A council retreat for Team Building, Leadership, etc will be led by Pr Beth and all council members are requested to attend. It will be held on February 13th at 11:45AM

We would like to thank Arlene Bagley, Jolene VanDenElzen, Dan Szulczewski and Shannon Cortright for assisting the Council as temporary Council members for the remaining 3-months of this most recent term. Your service was very much appreciated.

A motion was made by Rebecca Burgener and seconded by Dan Szulczewski to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:
The Council closed with the Lord's Prayer.
The next scheduled Church Council meeting is set for Monday, February 14th, 2011 at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Kiefer
Council Member