

**OUR SAVIOURS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING  
March 14, 2011**

PRESENT: Pastor John Czarnota, Russ Leyk, Shannon Cortright, Charlotte Peters, Shirley Mitchell, Rebecca Burgener, Patti Lutzke, Anne Torkelson, Carie Truckey, Tina Kiefer, Roger Anderson, and Cindy Wilson

EXCUSED: Dan Szulczewski

Meeting called to order by Russ Leyk. On behalf of the Council and Our Saviour's Congregation, Russ welcomed Pastor John Czarnota as our interim pastor.

Devotions were read by Pastor John Czarnota.

The Secretary's report was reviewed and motion was made by Shirley to accept the report as printed. Motion was seconded by Carie, and the motion passed.

The financial report was reviewed. Carie reported that Benevolence is current. She said that Pete talked to Dave Purlmal regarding the Ziegler accounts. She stated that the committee needs direction on how to proceed if invested designated funds fail. Discussion was held regarding the drafting of a policy on how the Financial Stewardship team is to proceed on investing the Ziegler accounts. Tina moved that the Council recommend the Financial Stewardship team develop a policy to manage the Ziegler funds. Roger seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Carie will advise the Financial Stewardship team of this recommendation.

Discussion was held regarding Pastor John Czarnota's salary structure. Charlotte moved that Pastor Czarnota be allowed to designate how he wishes to receive his salary. Anne seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Shannon moved to accept the Financial Report. Shirley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

**Team Reports:**

**Christian Education**

Shannon stated she needs Council action on how the youth offerings are to be designated. It was suggested that the youth offerings for the 2011-2012 year be directed to World Vision rather than to the church general fund. Through World Vision an animal can be purchased for a third world family. There is no action needed at this time as this would not take effect until fall.

**Outreach**

Patti reported that the Breaking Bread Meal is scheduled for April 21. She also said they have a list of shut-ins for Easter baskets. They still need to decide who will be receiving them and what will be in the baskets. She reported that new member receptions will be held quarterly.

**Property & Maintenance**

Discussion was held regarding the parsonage situation. Rebecca is to make a copy of the report from the Ad Hoc Parsonage Committee to give to Property & Maintenance. Roger is to mention

to Property & Maintenance that the bulbs need to be replaced on the cross as they have been burned out for some time now.

#### Stewardship

Input was requested from Council to share at new member receptions what Council members do. Anne suggested a handout for the new members that provides information on the various teams. Tina has been working on a presentation for the New Member program. Pastor Czarnota offered to help put something together.

#### Worship & Music

Rebecca reported that a contemporary worship service is being contemplated for the fall. It was proposed that at least a six-month pilot program be implemented to allow the alternative service style to establish itself with regular monitoring. There was no Council action needed at this time.

#### Youth & Family

No council action needed.

Rebecca moved to accept the Team reports as printed. Roger seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Russ said that Pastor Schaus has orally accepted the call to Our Saviour's. He plans to arrive April 8 in Merrill and formally plans to start April 9 in his position as pastor. He expressed interest in the parsonage on a temporary basis. He would like to move in on April 8 and plans on living there for at least a year or until their house is sold. Russ requested that Pastor Schaus make a list of the minimum things needing attention for immediate occupancy and a list of items necessary for the long-term basis. Once Russ gets the list he will share it with the Council and Property & Maintenance. Property & Maintenance need to proceed immediately with getting the parsonage in shape for Pastor Schaus to move in.

It was brought to the attention of the Council that they should lead by example. Pastor Czarnota stated that a pastor should be addressed with respect. He clarified that a pastor should be addressed as "Pastor" when he is your pastor and as "Reverend" when the pastor is not your pastor

Pastor Schaus's moving expenses have not been determined yet. The Council will deal with that when they get some figures.

Discussion was held regarding car allowance versus mileage reimbursement for Pastor Schaus. Shirley recommended the mileage reimbursement. It was noted that the ELCA guidelines also recommend mileage reimbursement. Shannon moved that Pastor Schaus use mileage reimbursement. Patti seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

Installation Sunday will be determined at a later date. It may be scheduled for a weeknight.

Discussion was held regarding the Mutual Ministry Team. The Team is to work to understand the congregation's needs, help the new pastor to determine the needs of the congregation, and to help the new pastor with the transition.

Anne moved to elect the following members to serve for the respective terms:

To serve as a two-year term:           Karen Olson  
  Carol Engebretson  
  Carl Theorin

To serve as a one-year term:           Kathleen Nutter  
  Larry Lebal  
  Mike Jirovec

Patti seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Time and talent sheets will be distributed to Council members so the members are aware of who is interested in participating on certain committees.

Carie reported that Tina and she are working on a process for employee year-end reviews to be put in place.

Discussion was held regarding the purchase of a PowerPoint Projector. Carie reported that there is enough in the non-designated funds and SOS fund to purchase a projector. Shirley moved that the Council authorize Carie to investigate and purchase a PowerPoint projector and the needed accessories up to \$1,500. Roger seconded the motion and the motion was passed. Carie will investigate the purchaser of a projector.

Discussion was held regarding the purchase of a phone plan for the pastor and youth director. Pastor Czarnota has investigated into usage plans. Pastor Czarnota recommended that a cell phone be purchased that stays with the church. A suggestion was made that Jamie submit an expense report for cell phone usage. Pastor Czarnota stated that we can anticipate this matter coming up with the incoming pastor. Charlotte moved that we reimburse the pastor and the youth director temporarily for use of their cell phones and that we look into a plan for a phone for the Youth Director and Pastor. Shannon seconded the motion. Motion passed. Carie and Rebecca volunteered to look into plans.

Rebecca moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Anne, motion passed.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted:

Cynthia Wilson  
Secretary