

Church Council Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, 9 December, 2014

Present: Pastor Karen Jewell, Jane Martinez, Jakob Iversen, Beth Moore, Chris Ziegler, Gary Bruce, Ann Stephan, Kristi Cutts **Excused:** Dirk Bjornstad, Melissa Last, Michael Anderson **Guests:** Jayne Lindsay

Minutes: Minutes from the November 10th, 2014 meeting were, posted, modified, and approved online .

Treasurer's report: A motion was made and seconded to approve the November financial reports.

Old Business:

2015 Budget Update: Committee budgets were modified, salaries kept at current levels, and estimation of giving increased in the third draft of the 2015 budget. The final budget will be presented at the January council meeting.

AED Training Update: Additional dates have been set for training of staff/volunteers/leaders: Jan. 8th @ 3:30 pm, Jan. 10th @ 9:30 am, Jan. 21st @ 6:30 pm.

Nominating Committee Update: As of now, there are people to fill three of the five upcoming council vacancies.

New Business:

No New Business

Christian Action Report (Kristi Cutts):

December's Noisy Offering collection will be in support of the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry. The committee met on November 30th to plan activities for 2015.

Fellowship/Hospitality Report (Chris Ziegler):

The volunteer schedule is set for January - February of 2015.

Property Report (Gary Bruce):

Need to add some blinds to help darken the Sunday School rooms. Interior decor committee to aid in this. Two trees will have to be removed on the south side for better sign visibility and the flat roof over the Narthex needs to be resealed. Lights need to be replaced in the sanctuary, scheduled for 12/6/2014. Tree Scheduled to put up on 12/12/2014 at 9:00 AM. Total sign costs were \$17828.95. We received \$18008.91. Balance of +\$99.96. **Next meeting:** January 22, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

Stewardship/Discipleship Report (Ann Stephan):

The narrative budget for 2015 has been discussed and submitted. Time and talent sheets are being returned, and the process of tabulating them will begin.

Worship & Music (Jane Martinez):

The proposed 2015 budget was reviewed. There were more people and pets at the last pet ministry, so it is growing in popularity. Prelude.com will be evaluated in January. Memorial funds have been approved for an additional microphone as well as repair of the current microphones. AED training dates were shared. The advent season was discussed. Special music for the Christmas season must be decided by December 7th. **Next meeting date: January 15, 2015 at 7:15 PM.**

Pastor's Report (Pastor Karen Jewell):

Our new Bishop Gerald Mansholt has invited every congregation to send pastoral leaders and lay members to a gathering in our area on Saturday, **February 7, 2015** to pray and prepare for our shared mission. Our **Oshkosh Conference Assembly** will be held just before this event.

Council members please turn in your annual report or return it by email to the church office by **Wednesday, December 31** for inclusion in **the Annual Report for 2014**.

In addition to regular Sunday worship and Wednesday Advent services we have many other special services planned.

Devotion for Tuesday, 13 January, 2014: Gary Bruce

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Ziegler, Council Secretary

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Present: Pastor Karen Jewell, Jane Martinez, Jakob Iversen, Beth Moore, Chris Ziegler, Gary Bruce, Ann Stephan, Kristi Cutts, Dirk Bjornstad, Melissa Last, Michael Anderson **Guests:** Jayne Lindsay

Treasurer's report: A motion was made and seconded to approve the December financial reports.

Old Business:

2015 Budget Update: A motion was made and seconded to approve the final draft of the 2015 budget.

AED Training Update: Additional dates have been set for training of staff/volunteers/leaders: Feb. 11th @ 6:15 pm, Feb. 21 @ 9:00 am, Feb. 22 @ 11:30 am

Nominating Committee Update: There are two council positions and Crossways Camps representatives yet to be filled. Nominations will be called on from the floor to fill any of the vacant positions.

Vanco on-line giving: A presentation will be made at the annual meeting outlining the costs and procedures.

New Business:

Annual Meeting/Agenda: It was decided to have presentations from several committees before going into the final budget and nominations.

Monthly Devotions: Jane Martinez proposed devotions being done in alphabetical order to allow council members the time to prepare. This will be discussed again after the new council members are installed.

Education (Melissa Last)

We had a wonderful Children's Christmas Program. Thank you to Michele Hawley, Brenda Francis, and all who helped.

Technology (Jakob Iversen):

The network jack in the office for the copier will be installed in the next two weeks. The answering service is set up and working through Accu-Com. Quotes to be received from TimeWarner and BeeLine for an answering system to work with our phones. Pastor will record sermons for shut-ins and the website. The backup solution is waiting for the network jack. We are checking with Vanco for e-giving setup. 2015 priorities are: establish e-giving, security audit, backup procedures, establish web and social media committee, establish electronic newsletter, research moving to web-based version of Church Windows, connect copier to network, and a new laptop for the treasurer.

Pastor's Report (Pastor Karen Jewell):

Deep thanks to everyone who contributed to the beauty and hospitality of the Advent and Christmas seasons. Thank you to our members for the special gifts to help others at Christmas time – we were able to help many who had turned to our church for assistance. We organized a meeting time and plan for our fellowship with a group of members who live at the Carmel Apartments. Our first meeting was Dec. 30, and another is planned for Jan. 20. The Post Office has announced that they are changing the bulk mailing regulations. We were granted an extension until May 5th to continue mailing our newsletters as we have done it and are seeking feedback from congregational members regarding the best way to deliver news and information to them: by first class mail, by email, or through our website. We are trying in the office to make all three options readily available. New members Warren and Candy Luce were welcomed. The Annual Conference Assembly at Grace English Lutheran Church in Berlin is on Feb. 7, 12:15 to 1:15 pm, followed by a Prayer meeting with Bishop Mansholt from 1:30 – 4:30 pm. All members are welcome. Feb. 14, Crossways Camping Ministries Annual Meeting is at St. Mark's in Neenah from 10:00 to 12 noon. Hoping to visit my family Jan. 29 to Feb. 5.

Devotion for Tuesday, 13 January, 2014: Pastor Karen

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Ziegler, Council Secretary