

**Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
Yardley, Pennsylvania
Congregational Council Minutes
Meeting of April 20, 2009**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Sharon Taylor, Pastor Colleen Cox, John Brayshaw, Becky Ehrenfeld, Mike Garozzo, Jane Helms, Jeff Mullican, Kara Mullican, Paul Rensner, Kari Ries, Mike Robey, Marie Speers, Chuck Tobias, Elaine Zimmerman

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Frank Ehrenfeld III

MEMBERS OF CONGREGATION PRESENT: Ted Ebersole

CALL TO ORDER:

Council Vice-President Jeff Mullican called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 7:00 p.m.

DEVOTIONS

Becky Ehrenfeld led the council in devotions. Kari Ries will lead devotions next month.

PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

On the Thursday prior to each monthly council meeting, committee liaisons shall provide the church office with written committee reports. Packets to each council member will be provided by packet via church mailboxes on Friday.

Treasurer's Report: Report attached. It was noted that the Summary Income Statement should be dated 30-Mar instead of 31-Jan. Under YTD Expense, the difference should be -\$3,208. It was agreed that the Mission Expansion detail sheets will display data from the current year only, not all past years. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Financial Secretary's Report: Report attached. The apparent discrepancies between the financial secretary's report and the treasurer's report have been addressed – the financial secretary is now referencing the correct budget numbers. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the Financial Secretary's Report.

Finance Committee: Report attached

Pastor Sharon's Report: Report attached. Pastor Sharon recognized our new members, and highlighted the new young adult coffee house ministry.

Pastor Colleen's Report: Report attached. Pastor Cox highlighted the upcoming blood drive at LCR.

Missions Committee: Report attached

Stewardship: Report attached

Fellowship: No report

Property Committee: No report

Worship and Music: Report attached

Christian Education: No report

Support Ministries: No report

Endowment Fund Committee: Report attached

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March 16, 2009 Council Meeting were reviewed. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes.

The draft February 1, 2009 Winter Congregational Meeting Minutes were reviewed. The minutes will be presented for approval at the Spring Congregational Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Strategic Planning Team** – We discussed whether we have the leadership resources available to undertake this task. Discussed the type of planning we would want to pursue (see attached handout). It was agreed that Type 2 Developmental would be most appropriate – the suggested timetable is approx. 3-6 months, but in reality it would most likely be longer. It was suggested that the strategic planning utilize momentum from the building expansion, which will hopefully get started in the fall. Ideally, new member talent can be utilized for this team to take the pressure off over-committed veteran members. This will be further discussed at the council retreat.
- 2. Audit Committee Update** – The audit team is working on the audit.
- 3. Building Usage Request** – The request to do a children's yoga program at the church was tabled due to lack of information available at the meeting.
- 4. Building Usage Discussion** – Tabled in the absence of Frank Ehrenfeld.
- 5. Financial Secretary Report Update** – See above under Financial Secretary's Report.
- 6. Spring Congregational Meeting** –The agenda must be mailed out to the congregation 4 weeks prior to the meeting.
- 7. Nominating Committee Report** – Pastor Taylor noted that this committee is struggling to fill council and treasurer positions. It is expected that they will have candidates in place before next month.
- 8. Capital Campaign Plan '09** – Barb Spencer mailed out a letter to the congregation updating members on the status of pledges. She has reported that she has received no feedback on the letter to date.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. LCR Announcements and Counter Sign Up** – A sign up sheet was passed around. Council members will also sign up to be present in the Fellowship Hall after the 8 am service until the 11 am service, to answer questions or listen to any member concerns.
- 2. Finance Committee & Resurrection Connections Reporting** – Council discussed the pledge made at the Winter Congregational Meeting to communicate church finances to the congregation on a regular basis. It was noted that though Res Con has listed some general information, no specific financial information has been published in Resurrection Connections. Ted Ebersole reported that finance has been reluctant to publish financial information too early in the year; there are also concerns about the raw data being potentially misleading. However, Council and Finance generally agreed that the format used in ResCon in 2008 was acceptable, but that we should show giving vs. budget AND giving vs. deficit.

(i.e. \$700 behind is actually \$14,700 behind) Finance agreed to posting weekly updates in ResCon for the rest of the year.

3. **Council Retreat** – There will be a retreat for council members this summer or fall. We will discuss dates at the next meeting.
4. **HR Committee Appointment** – Council needs to appoint someone to fill an open spot on the HR Committee. Council will start thinking of potential candidates. Jim Wohlhueter will let council know what the specific opening is.
5. **Confirmation Approval** – A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve Jonathan Stawrosky, Marilene Martin, Courtney Nelson, and Jesse Evenson for confirmation, if all required tasks are completed on time.
6. **Constitution Committee Report** – Walt Reller completed a report of the changes that have been made to our constitution that have not yet been incorporated into the document. Jeff Mullican will incorporate these changes into our by-laws and will submit the finished document to Synod.
7. **Memorial Fund** – The Memorial Fund Operating Guidelines were updated in 2005. (see attached) Council discussed the new Memorial Plaque and the criteria that should be used for inclusion on the plaque. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to amend the guidelines under “Memorial Plaque” to read, “A Memorial Plaque shall be purchased that is designed to list all Memorial Fund honorees who meet the following criteria: 1) have \$100 or more contributed in their memory, and 2) were a past or present member of LCR and/or had their memorial service held at LCR. The plaque will not include the amount that was contributed or how the funds were used. In addition, items purchased with Memorial Fund proceeds will not have a plaque attached to the item indicating in whose name the item was purchased.
8. **National Youth Gathering** - A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to transfer the \$2900 left over from the previous youth gathering to the available balance of the Youth Fundraising Account.
9. **Council Service Project Follow-up** – Becky Ehrenfeld will follow up with Washington Crossing UMC regarding further involvement in the Kensington ministry.

PRAYER REQUESTS & ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was closed with prayer at approx. 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Ehrenfeld
May 10, 2009