

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, September 20, 2011
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

Council Members in attendance: Stephanie Alstead, Mark Thompson, Ron Struss, Mike Tjaden, Jan Johnshoy, Rhonda Tjaden, , Paul Mattessich, Jon Severson Chase Hippen, Kari Moeller, Ray Peterson, Darlene Hagquist and Claire Taylor-Sherman.

Council Members absent. Lee English, Peg Wangensteen and Bill Short

Staff: Russ Carlson (Pastor Cindy was absent)

Guests: Sue Klevan

1. President Stephanie Alstead opened the meeting.
2. In Pastor Cindy's absence, Stephanie led the group in prayer prior to the start of business.
3. Tonight's agenda approved as presented.
4. The minutes of the August 2011 Council Meeting were approved as amended.
5. Financial Report: The Treasurer presented the financial statements for the month of August 2011 and year-to-date through August 2011. M/S/C to approve the report as presented.
6. Old Business: Personnel Committee: Goal is to staff committee with 4 members; Stephanie has received a "Yes" to serving on the committee from 2 individuals.
7. New Business: Nominating Committee: chaired by Mark Thompson. Slate presented: Chase Hippen, Penny Norquist and Peter Draine. First meeting tomorrow evening (Wed, Sept 21). Stewardship meeting tomorrow evening as well - recruiting members to serve on the Council fits with Stewardship's campaign (sharing one's gifts with others); the 2 committees - Nominating and Stewardship - will consider whether there might be synergy to share as the committees move through their fall activities.
8. Articulating ILC's purpose. This process is referred to as "visioning" and will culminate in a stated Vision Statement for ILC (a corollary to the Mission Statement)). The visioning process will build on data gathered by the Transition Committee during 2010. A copy of the Transition Team's Report to the Council was provided to each attendee. Greg Knopff (who was part of the Transition Committee) has agreed to be the liaison between the Transition Team and the Council on visioning.
9. Committee Reports: Minutes of September meeting for Education & Literature is appended to the end of these minutes. Highlights for other committees as reported at the Council meeting:
 - a. Finance:

"Counters" for Sunday offerings are still needed. Currently, funds are counted at the bank (Anchor Bank) on Tuesday mornings. Location and timing of counting are open to modification to fit availability of volunteers.

Sue Klevan, on behalf of those individuals spearheading benevolence to Tanzania through the St. Paul Area Synod's Bega Kwa Bega" (shoulder-to-shoulder) outreach program with the Iringa Diocese presented the committee's planned fundraising and disbursements for the

outreach for 2012. Funds raised for donation to Tanzania are donated by from interested individuals (both ILC members and non-members) and are outside of commitments to the ILC and ILC's budget. Sue moved to ratify the committee's plan to raise money on behalf of ILC to spend as follows: (i) \$500.00 to cover overhead expenses incurred by the St. Paul Area Synod for this outreach; (ii) \$2000.00 for an agriculture project conducted by our sister congregation (Mkimbizi Lutheran Church) and (iii) \$8400.00 to fund 24 scholarships for secondary and post-secondary education (\$800.00/year/student); provided, however, that disbursements are limited to the amount of funds raised. M/S/C.

b. Membership & Evangelism:

Wednesday evening suppers have begun, are going well with attendance viewed as "average". THANK YOU to Paul Kaardal, and all who helped, for the fantastic picnic held on Rally Sunday.

Coffee hours: schedule for 2011-2012 program year has been created and will be posted monthly. How coffee hour is managed is under review.

Olan Mills - pictures for directory is underway.

c. Property: no report.

d. Social Justice: See Pastor Cindy's report.

e. Youth:

2012 Youth Gathering: to be held in New Orleans from July 18 - 22; 4 youth have indicated interest in attending; still trying to interest others eligible to participate, which include youth entering 9th grade in fall 2012 through 2011 graduates. Registration opens 10/9/11 and fills quickly. Chaperones will be needed; more to come.

Three 7th graders joined Katy for a trip to Valley Fair.

f. Stewardship: Their monthly meeting is tomorrow (Wed, 9/21).

Reminder, Adult Forums on Oct 9, 16 and 23 will be a financial series conducted/presented by LSS. They should be interactive, include small group discussions.

Collection of "time and talent" information has been transferred from the fall stewardship campaign to the planned gathering of information on members' gifts and how those gifts can be used to serve God.

g. Worship & Music:

Megan appreciated her farewell reception; a good send off. THANK YOU to all who helped arrange the reception.

2 interview/auditions for a new organist scheduled for Fri/Mon (Sept 23 & 26); maybe a couple more soon after.

h. Communications Task Force: 239 members have signed up to receive reports from ILC by email. Establishing a Face Book page. Shared information on how committees can be "Beat Reporters", to feed fresh information and pictures to the site.

9. Pastor Cindy's Report (Steph presented in Pastor Cindy's absence):

a. On 9/27/11, Ray Peterson, Tara Mattessich and I will be meeting with Jeff Kjellberg from Kairos to review progress on the last Capital Campaign's goals. Tara and Kari will help draft a letter to be sent with the 3rd quarter financial reports asking members to help meet the goal for the year.

- b. LASA has engaged in an email conversation regarding ILC's benevolence giving and developed a recommendation. Steph will forward their report to Council members for review prior to October's Council meeting. Planned benevolence giving totals approximately \$32,000; Green Lake Bible Camp and Highland Leisure Group have been dropped (ILC no longer sends kids to the former and the latter group has evolved into a card luncheon, which is thought to be not a good match to ILC's mission). Keystone has assumed the clients of Southwest Area Meals on Wheels ("SAMW"), so the plan is to direct funds to Keystone (SAMW is out of existence). Finally, although there can be overlap between those groups supported by church benevolence dollars and those supported by Flea Market proceeds, the church's benevolence budget will be established during the standard budgeting process, without consideration of how the Flea Market may decide to donate its receipts.
- c. With respect to gathering resources for the upcoming Visioning, Pastor has met with two other pastors and a strategic planner who have all done visioning in congregations. Also, for discussion at the October Council meeting, Steph passed out "homework" (a chapter from Aubry Malphurs' book: *Values Driven Leadership: Discovering and Developing Your Core Values for Ministry*) for each council member to read, absorb and reflect upon prior to our October meeting.

10. Closing prayer and then M/S/C to adjourn: 8:30 p.m.

Next all-committee night: Thursday, October 6 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Next Council meeting: Tuesday, October 18 @ 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 Claire Taylor-Sherman, Council Secretary

Committee Notes for August 2011 Meetings

Education and Literature Committee

1. Wins/Accomplishments:
 - Rally Day was a big success on September 11th. The theme was, "God's Amazing (G) race."
 - Sunday School classes and Adult Forum began on September 18th. We have teachers for every class!!!
 - Orientation for 7th and 8th grade confirmands and their parents was September 14th.
 - Acolyte and worship assistant training is happening for the confirmation students on September 21st.
 - There will be an orientation/training for the people working as mentors with the 9th grade confirmation students on September 28th.
 - Deb has hired a new person, Kirsten, to work in the nursery. Nell is staying on. There will be two staff people with the children.
 - We piloted a new Kids' Clubhouse for grades 2-6 on Wednesday nights, 6:30 to 7:30 in the Pine room. Staffed by Kirsten and volunteer, Linda Tantzen.
2. Key Issues/Concerns:
 - Review and update our Child Abuse Prevention Policy.
 - Discuss using the materials from the synod about Eliminating Poverty in Minnesota.
 - Discuss observing Children's Sabbath in October.

- Discuss holding a Bible study during Adult Forum for 2 to 4 weeks.
3. Key Dates: Children's Sabbath is observed across the country the weekend of October 21-23.
 4. Accomplishments:
 - Becky, Phil and Katy will again work with Matthew teaching the 7th and 8th grade confirmation class. They are volunteering their time.
 - Bibles will be given to the third graders during second service on September 25th. Pastor Cindy will teach a parent/child class for this group on that day.
 5. Future Activities:
 - Pastor Cindy will lead both a Wednesday morning and a Wednesday evening Bible Study beginning the last week in September.
 - 5th Sundays Hunger Series will begin on October 30th. The theme is "The State of Hunger in Minnesota." Paul Mattessich will present. On January 29th the topic will be "Minnesota without Poverty. On April 29th there will an Immanuel roundtable to discuss what we are doing and could do to combat hunger.

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¹ Guided by the Holy Spirit, we are a family of believers growing in Christ, **WELCOMING** all God's children, joyfully **WORSHIPPING** God through Word and Sacrament, and **SERVING** our neighbors with love.