**Congregational Council Meeting Minutes****October 26, 2010****Attendance:**

Name	Present	Not Present
Peter Geisendorfer-Lindgren	X	
Karen Geisendorfer-Lindgren	X	
Phil Dell	X	
David Lippitt		X
Todd Buegler	X	
Laura Dirks	X	
Tom Campbell	X	
Kris Bjorke	X	
Tom Brady	X	
Lisa Toms	X	
Lisa Gedker	X	
Tim Jenneke	X	
John Hanson	X	
Jason McCarty		X
Barb Lindberg	X	
Kent Mainquist		X
Katrina Bahen		X

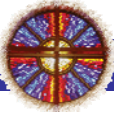
Tim Jenneke called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY John Hanson AND SECONDED BY Tom Campbell TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE OCTOBER 26th MEETING.

Kris Bjorke offered a devotion on the challenge of understanding the mystery of Christ. It can be difficult to know how to balance today's curiosity with pursuing things which are meant to be a mystery. Kris referenced Ephesians 3:9 and 1 Corinthians 13, and spoke on how we are called to be stewards of the mysteries of God.

Learning Time – Keith Magnuson, Kairos & Associates:

- Keith Magnuson, and ELCA pastor and representative of Kairos & Associated, spoke to the council during learning time. Included in his comments were the following points :
 - He, and Kairos, are very interested in Lord of Life's desire to create a Culture of Generosity going beyond stewardship and capital campaigns.
 - When leaders of congregations are interested in growing in generosity themselves, great things happen in the lives of their congregations and God's ability to do good work.
 - Generosity is about connecting us. Jesus engaged people in the idea of "giving it away" to connect them to each other and to Christ himself and the life God wants them to live.
 - We are charged with meeting people where they are, but not leaving them there.
 - All ministry is relational – we need to connect with people.



- We should continue to develop a culture where there is opportunity for transformational experiences.
- Stewardship is about engagement.
- As people grow in their faith, they grow in their generosity.
- The Church and culture is continually changing, and being a large church is both a blessing and a curse.
- The math says that our current ideas for an expansion plan are doable. Peter added that the same math as 5 years ago is doable. There may be some economic changes that affect that.
- Timeline for the Capital campaign: Gets underway after the 1st of year and should be completed by Palm Sunday.

Council Action:

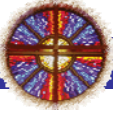
- APPROVE MINUTES
 - Minutes of the September 28th, 2010 Congregational Council Meeting were reviewed for accuracy.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Tom Campbell, SECONDED BY Tom Brady TO APPROVE THE September 28th, 2010 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES. MOTION PASSED.

- OFFERING COLLECTION SIGNUP FOR NOVEMBER.
 - Passed around.
- FINANCIAL REPORT
 - We are about \$56,000 behind budget, but October has been better. We are headed closer to closing the gap between budget and actual.
 - Question on members canceling ACH payments. Peter reported that there is always some of that, but we are holding steady.

Ends Policy Monitoring:

- Faith Formation
 - Pastor Phil presented us with a progress report.
 - There is much crossover with the other Ends Policies, and the report highlights the progress that is being made. There is a large list of activities that are in place.
 - Points raised:
 - Do we present opportunities or set expectations? We have set some specific expectations this Fall, and will continue to do so.
 - We have to start where people are and continue to offer opportunities for them to be intentional in their growth.
 - How do we instill in individuals the willingness to Live Christ?
 - We need individuals to assume responsibility for their own growth.
 - Need ongoing ways of challenging people to continue their own growth.
 - How do we evaluate a program when the goal is promote and expand?



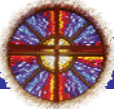
- Current status reported provides a benchmark for future evaluation.
- What changes are being made to fundraising efforts for mission trips?
 - Options such as working stadium concessions are being researched to allow individual fundraising to take place off-site.
- Do we have entry points for new comers?
 - Alpha, Adult Confirmation, Social Activities, Children's Activities
- There is a desire for direct correlation between Faith formation in parents and faith formation in children.
- Do we need an evaluation of the small groups and perhaps another push for participation?
- Suggestion of offering "Get to Know your Church" nights, explaining church programs and need for space to people as a part of the Capital campaign.
- Do we have a plan for encouraging the journeys of parents of Jr./Sr. high youth?
 - Dave McCarty doing a Sunday evening Men's group during confirmation.

Campus Update:

- Campus Development - Jason McCarty, Tim Jenneke, Pastor Peter, Pastor Phil, John Merken, Alan Black, Jim Klande
 - The team met after the last Council meeting .
 - The plan viewed by Council in September went to staff for input. Staff determined that the plan would meet the needs of the Faith Formation programs, but was lacking in space for Caring Community and Outreach programs.
 - The group asked the architects to revise the plan to include spaces for those programs and consolidate space to ensure we stay within our designed budget.
 - Current roadwork should be completed soon.

Work Group Updates:

- Learning - Lisa Gedker, Lisa Toms, Laura Dirks, Pastor Karen
 - Peter is waiting for confirmation from the Seminary on sending a representative.
 - Balance of the year – TBD
- Campaign/Fundraising - Pastor Peter, Kent Mainquist, John Hanson, Barb Lindberg
 - Have not begun work yet.
- Succession Planning and Nominating Committee - Tom Brady, Tom Campbell, Laura Dirks
 - Have not begun work yet.

**Staff/Ministry Updates:**

- Peter
 - Two interns and a number of Seminary students are being used on Sunday mornings. The Consecration of Diane Solomonson takes place this week. The Bishop affirmed our congregation for growing and developing leaders. The new liturgy written by David Frank was introduced, but not as well as it could have been, resulting in lots of comments. All of the changes reflect the ends policies, and the new liturgy will continue to be taught and used at the Saturday services and every 3rd Sunday of the month. December devotions will be via video emailed daily from December 1-25. Lee Fuchs and Tom Tipton are both currently in the hospital.
- Karen
 - The Prayer ministry leaders are doing a Holy Spirit retreat in November. Pastor Karen and Karen Greimel will lead a Service of Remembrance the first weekend in November also.
- Phil
 - Internship meeting today, new employee handbook in development, campus development process, and continual work on ends policies and monitoring.
- Todd
 - Big weekend coming up: 150-160 3rd graders will receive bibles on Sunday and four Confirmation services this weekend.

Adjournment

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Pastor Peter, SECONDED BY Laura Dirks TO ADJOURN THE OCTOBER 26th, 2010 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION PASSED. THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:52 PM.

Closed with Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting November 30th, 2010, at Lord of Life at 7:00 pm.

Devotions – Barb Lindberg

November Ends Policy Monitoring – Worship

Respectfully submitted, Lisa Gedker