



## Congregational Council Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2011

### 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 8:39 am.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Jason McCarty AND SECONDED BY Tom Campbell TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE JANUARY 22<sup>nd</sup> MEETING.

### Devotions

Tom Campbell offered a devotion on New Beginnings, including a story about prayers shifting from making requests to giving thanks.

### Council Action:

- APPROVE MINUTES
  - Minutes of the December 14th, 2010 Congregational Council Meeting were reviewed for accuracy.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Tom Campbell, SECONDED BY Jason McCarty TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 14th, 2010 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES. MOTION PASSED.

- OFFERING COLLECTION SIGNUP FOR THE FEBRUARY.
  - Passed around.
- 2010 FINANCIAL REPORT
  - Receipts down primarily due to bad weather. We were ahead of budget going into December, but weather definitely had an impact. Net loss of 16,000 over the course of the year.



- 2011 FINANCIAL BUDGET
  - Questions raised included where utilities fall in the budget, whether a building expansion will require additional maintenance staff hours, and the status of the columbarium.
  - Discussed what to do in the event of upcoming building expenditures, as our building ages, i.e. computers, carpeting, parking lot sealing.
  - Discussed specified donations and how those funds can be used.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Tom Brady, SECONDED BY Tom Campbell TO APPROVE THE 2011 LORD OF LIFE BUDGET. MOTION PASSED.

### **Congregational Meeting, January 23:**

- 12:00 pm in Fellowship Hall
  - Approve Budget – need motion to approve
  - Campus Development Campaign Discussion
  - Any Other Items

### **State of the Church Address:**

- Peter:
  - Culture at Lord of Life: In general, people feel really good about their church. The Reveal study showed that people are really happy with their church, but lack in personal spiritual disciplines. People like the staff, the architecture of the building, and the service provided for funerals and weddings. We keep the people of Lord of Life included in the prayers of the church through the Prayer Network, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and during worship.
  - We have increased membership by 50% since 2001, but the turnover is actually much higher when we look at how many members have left in that same time period. It is important to continually bring new people into leadership in the church.
  - We have an increase in older members, possibly attributed to moving into the area to be closer to families.
  - The financial piece is flat. The theory is that a capital campaign can raise everyone's level of giving, and get new people involved.
  - 20/20 vision is the right thing to do – we believe in the future
  - The ELCA, along with denominations in general, are transitioning to a different role in the church. The tie to ELCA will become less important as we move forward.
  - However, Lutheran theology is growing.
  - We survived the ELCA event from last year.
  - Worship attendance is flat, except for Christmas and Easter, which, in 2010, were the largest Christmas and Easter services ever. (6011 on Christmas Eve.) We average 1800-1900 weekly.
  - Video screens in the sanctuary will happen, probably sooner than later.
  - There are 4 modes of communication – oral, written, video, digital. We are largely an oral and written church. There is a disconnect if we don't stay current with communication technology.

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- Karen:
  - Adult ministries - 3 support staff, each ministry has a designated go-to staff person. 35 leaders attended the Annual Adult Ministries retreat in January. A goal of the Adult Ministries team is creating a sense that all adult ministry leaders are a part of a larger whole serving together.
  - OWLS – growing and very encouraging to new people.
  - Word for Women – 150 on Wednesday mornings. Going strong and studying the Holy Spirit. Wednesday day evenings have a smaller turn-out.
  - Adult Confirmation class begins in February.
  - Lots of seminarians – 7 or 8, and 2 interns Dave McCarty and Karen Greimel, plus some new applicants.
  
- Phil:
  - Provided a handout with 2010 Highlights, 2011 expectations, and a general overview of his areas of responsibility in 2010 and moving forward.
  - Highlights from 2010:
    - Ends Policy Development and Implementation
    - Campus Development Plans and Campaign – planning and launch
    - Communication Progress – Live Christ campaign, LifeTIMES re-launch, Web
  
- David:
  - Focus on caring community
  - Pastoral care ministry has changed. Michelle Welinski is now the coordinator of pastoral care, to avoid having people fall through the cracks.
  - Shut in care – We have more shut-ins than in the past. Some are served by the regular services provided at Rose Arbor.
  - The Abundant Life program has transitioned to Celebrate Recovery. Attendance has almost doubled the in the first three weeks in the new program. It is going very well.
  - Couples Retreat in February
  - 31 Trained Care Ministers – 26 women and 5 men. There is still room to expand.
  - Grief Ministry continuing
  - Healing Ministry going well under the leadership of Karen Greimel.

## **Campus Development Campaign:**

- Kairos – Capital Appeal Approach
  - Keith Magnusen from Kairos gave a brief overview of how a Campus Development Campaign could be implemented at Lord of Life. Some highlights include:
    - A Capital appeal will raise funds for new facilities, but is also an opportunity to grow in the area of stewardship.
    - Sermon Series
    - Video Vignettes
    - Meeting with top givers to establish an early donors program, with a goal of 2 million in donations before the general campaign begins.
    - Meeting with Church Leaders to get them involved.
    - Training Ambassadors to proclaim the good work of God being done at Lord of Life, to reflect the great joy that comes from being a part of it, and to invite others into our great community of believers.
    - March 21 – packet to everyone in the church
    - Palm Sunday – wrap up the capital campaign

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- Other Comments:
  - Council role – to get passionately involved in this journey.
  - Generosity begets generosity.
  - Potential of matching donors – Top giver's donations used to provide matching funds for younger families or current non-pledgers
  - Potential for in-kind donations of labor, etc.
  - Option of longer-term giving
  - Opportunities for service for those who may not be able to give financially
- Financial Modeling – What if Scenarios
  - Tom Brady presented the council with a proposed timeline for the Campus Development Appeal, and with a breakdown of scenarios of estimated amounts given.
  - Scenarios of best estimate, optimistic estimate, and pessimistic estimates were all discussed, looking at building costs, down payment, reserves and current debt.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kent Mainquist, SECONDED BY Laura Dirks TO UTILIZE \$166,000 OF THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND, IN ADDITION TO \$134,000 OF PREVIOUSLY DESIGNATED FUNDS, AS DOWN PAYMENT FOR THE 2011 CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN, WITH A GOAL OF REPLENISHING THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND TO AT LEAST \$300,000. MOTION PASSED.

- 10% Discussion
  - There were mixed reactions to the proposal of taking 10% of the funds raised in the Campus Development campaign. In surveys taken by participants in the Building Expansion Conversations, there were many people strongly in favor of the idea, and some respectfully, but strongly, opposed.
- How does the building expansion fit into our Campus Development Ends Policy?
  - Pastor Phil provided a spreadsheet outlining the Campus Development Ends policy and how our expansion plans serve that ends policy.

## **Campus Update:**

- Update of building plan distributed. Changes will continue to be made.

## **Adjournment**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Jason McCarty, SECONDED BY Katrina Bahan TO ADJOURN THE JANUARY 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION PASSED. THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:43 PM.

Closed with Lord's Prayer.

The next Council Meeting is February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011, at the Lord of Life at 7:00 pm.

Devotions – Kent Mainquist  
February Ends Policy Monitoring – Culture of Generosity  
Learning Time – Pastor Todd

Respectfully submitted, Lisa Gedker