

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Church Council Meeting  
January 18, 2012

Members Present: , Jack Diesing, Lela Creighton, John Gellasch, Carol Komer, Eric Harms, Katherine Ward, Michele Ketapa, Barb Marini, Pastor Harms, Dan Tripp, Jackie Kalogerakos, Pastor Collier Bob Mobley, Randy Rogers, Rick Treusch, Becka Jenzen, New Members: Tom Marini and Ben Holochwost

Members Absent: Todd Callewaert, Will Callewaert, Robert Feucht, Becka Jenzen

Meeting called to order: 7:05pm

Devotional: Catherine Ward

Minutes: Motion to Approve minutes as corrected: Barb Marini ; 2<sup>nd</sup> Carol Komer ; All approve

Treasurer's Report: Motion to Approve: ; 2<sup>nd</sup> ; All approve  
Defer reading of the report to Harry Thomalla (New Business)

Pastor's Reports

Pastor Harms:

- Pastor Samur and Abba Azar and their two sons arrived as of Monday evening. Pastor Azar is the pastor of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Amman, Jordan our partner church in the ELCJHL> Pastor Azar will be presenting seminars of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church on Monday, Wednesday and Friday Mornings (1/23, 1/25 and 1/27) starting at 9:30am. He will present two evening seminars at St. Paul on Tuesday and Thursday, 1/24 and 1/26, starting at 7:00 pm. He will be preaching at our 10am worship service on Sunday, 1/29. There is a congregational dinner for the Azar Family at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church on Sunday, 1/22/12, starting at 6:00pm. The cost is \$7.50.
- We will have an LSSM emphasis on Sunday, Feb. 5, 2012. Pastor Phil Hemke will be preaching and leading the Adult Forum. Each month through the year we will be focusing on an important ministry that LSSM promotes.
- On March 10 and 11, we will be hosting Captive Free, a Lutheran Youth Encounter team. They will be working with our senior high and young adults on Saturday, March 10 and will be leading our worship services on Sunday, March 11, 2012.

Pastor Collier:

- Over the Christmas holiday the pastors visited our shut-ins with communion.
- Pastor Harms and I have been going around to contact, as well as deliver 2012 pledged envelopes to some members who we have not seen for a few months now. For the visits, we bring along recent bulletins, recent sermons, and the current devotional booklet.
- I will be attending a synod leadership event from Jan 22 - 24<sup>th</sup> in Midland, MI. Clergy and other rostered leaders from the SE Michigan Synod and the NE Michigan Synod will be attending.

Michelle Ketepa:

- The Lenten Devotional is on track. A few submissions are in already and reminders went out last week for the deadline on the 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Peer ministry continues and the students have all shown growth from where we started. We meet through April this year and finish the other half of the program next year.
- 3 students will be receiving Bibles this weekend. 2 through the workshop and 1 home studied

- Faith and Ale is scheduled through March. April and May topics will be determined once the LSSM calendar is worked out.
- My Body, God's Gift: New milestone in February Grades 4-6 will discuss adolescent body changes/sexuality, peer ministry and decision making. Dr. Pattie Schwessinger is planning to help lead the medical portions of this workshop. Other local churches have been given information and are inviting their families to participate (First English, GP Congregational, and St. Marks/Roseville)
- GP Congregational is holding a New Drivers Milestone at the end of February. Information has been emailed to our HS families. This partnership in community for milestones is exciting!
- Prayer and Fare continues to trickle in. The youth meet on Sunday for Gathering Preparations. During this meeting we're going to plan a temple talk for the 29<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully getting the kids' faces in front of the congregation will encourage some sponsors so we can book flights in early February.
- Recommends St. Paul consider participating in Family Center Association of Professionals, Cost's \$100/year. This will enable ST Paul to promote events and activities to a greater number. Connects members in Grosse Pointe are with resources. Members can contribute to family center publications and website. Can publicize events in the community. Events St Paul can promote: Milestone events – especially workshops like the middle school sessions on self-image, bullying, etc. My Body, God's Gift, Parenting Preschoolers. Faith and Ale, Youth events like 30 hour famine, Worship events like blessing backpacks. Healing services, Advent Workshop, Service events like LSSM projects.

#### Old Business:

- Basement Update: Gretchen provided a calendar of when restoration will begin and end with and end target date of Ash Wednesday.
- Council meet to further discuss the Long Range Task Force Findings  
Motion to approve Task Force Recommendations: John Gellasch; 2<sup>nd</sup> Randy Rogers, All Approve.

#### New Business:

- Columbarium: Harry Thomalla shared examples of the plaque to be used, asked for council approval. Motion to Approve Columbarium Plaque: John Gellasch; 2<sup>nd</sup> Randy Rogers; all approve
- Audit Committee: Harry Thomalla shared findings (see attached memo of record). WELCA and Youth checking accounts need reviewed. Recommended a room by room audio/video inventory be done of each and every room for insurance purposes. Energy Audit also recommended. John Gellasch talked to Rich Truesch about DTE Audit.  
Motion to have Harry Thomalla review WELCA and Youth accounts: Jack Diesing; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jackie K; all approve  
Motion to have John Gellasch contact DTE regarding Energy Audit and to coordinate Video/Audio Room inventory: Jackie K; 2<sup>nd</sup> Jack Diesing; all approve. Suggested that Josh Blenman be contacted to video tape.
- BUDGET: Pledges for 2012 still down, but those who have show an increase in giving. Some confusion was noted about need to submit pledges if doing the Simply Giving and if pledge amount doesn't change. Harry Thomalla reviewed the Preliminary Budget with council which is to be shared at the upcoming congregational meeting.
- Discussion was held regarding constitutionality of ordering the boiler prior to congregational approval. Congregational approval is needed for cost over \$5000. Congregation has been kept updated all along about the boiler situation, since the flooding occurred via church news letter, council mins and email blasts.
- Lutheran Youth Encounter Team: Money is needed for their ministry here at St. Paul: Requesting \$750 for special projects: Motion: Randy Rogers; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rick Truesch; all approve

- ELCHJHL visit: 7 youth from companion synod in Amman and Ramalah, 2 from Jerusalem. Will be attending National Gathering. Requesting \$1000 from Special Fund. Motion: Jackie K; 2<sup>nd</sup> Carol Komer; all approve

### Committee Reports

Communications (Eric Harms): Welcomes the new chair of communications Ben Holochwost; no report

Social Action (Jackie Kalogerakos): LSSM Focus: Committee consists of Mary Weiland and Jackie Kalogerakos. Goal is to have a different facilitator each month for each focus. Monthly LSSM Focus will tentatively be as follows: February: Introduction – Pastor P. Hemke from LSSM; March Advocacy – Angelique Dey; April: Heartline – Shelley Reisen; May Foster Children; Jun/July/August: Seniors (VBS) and Home goods collection; September: Educational Scholarship Fund; October: Refugee Support (Freedom House); November: Adoption; December: Wayne County Family Center; January ('13) Overview of what we've done so far; February: In Home Care and Seniors; March: Persons with Disabilities; April; Motivation Program; May: Foster a family for Summer Camp (Living Waters)

Youth and Family (Becka Jenzen): Absent

Legacy/Stewardship (Randy Rogers): Calls have been made to those who have not pledged

Evangelism (Todd Callewaert): Absent

Christian Education (Bob Mobley): no report

Vice President (Jack Deising): Thanks was extended to the outgoing council members: Dan Tripp (President); Carol Komer (Lay Ministry); Eric Harms (Communications); and Barb Marini (Music); Welcome extended to new council members: Ben Holochwost (Communications); Tom Marini (Music); Rick Truesch (Return for another term); still looking for Lay Minister and President.

Property (Rick Treusch): Roof repairs above the archive room and other areas now need attention. Driveway drain repair will be in the spring

Administration (Bob Feucht): Absent

Worship (Katherine Ward): Worship committee met on Jan 10 – 8 people in attendance. Services are planned through Pentecost. Visiting Preachers: Samer Azar and Phil Hempke and Lutheran Youth Encounter. Lenten services yet to be planned. Devotions being made and or ordered. Earth Day – Sunday April 22 Hymns, Children's Message and sermon to tie in. Continue milestones such as Third Grade Bible presentation, Elders, Confirmation, graduation, etc

Youth (Will Callewaert): absent

Lay Ministry (Carol Komer): Currently have 23 people who receive communion regularly through home visit: Jim Ireton is visited by Ken Stekett; Ken Boerner from Matt Franzen; Elaine Keech from Pam Jankiewicz; Lucille Grenzke from Kendra Bickford and Mildred Fox from Katherine Ward (Still waiting for a new chair of Lay Ministry)

Music (Barb Marini): Tom Marini introduced as chair of Music. No report

Next Council Meeting:

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Congregational Meeting January 29; Council Retreat 2/4 8:30am at GPW Presbyterian BYOL; Installation of new Council 2/5; February 15 regular meeting.

Devotions: Randy

The meeting ended at \_ 8:45 pm\_ with the Lords Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lela Creighton

Church Council Retreat Discussions and Actions  
February 4, 2010  
8:30am – 2:00pm  
Grosse Pointe Presbyterian Church

Update to Budget:

Harry Thomalla reports he went back and crunched the numbers again. Congregation only in need to raise roughly \$9000.

Columbarium:

Harry Thomalla presented to Council for approval the COLUMBARIUM MEMORIAL GARDEN CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP. Motion to approve TABLED until the February Council meeting in order to allow council members time to read.

Lay Care Giving Chair:

Update on Lay Care Giving Chair: (Jack Diesing) Marie Zeller approached and offered her services. Motion of appoint Marie Zeller Chair of Lay Care Giving: Todd Callewaert; 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Marini; All approve. (official election by congregation will take place in December)

Gretchen Archinal: Lighting/Basement updates:

Shared the need to update lighting fixtures in Basement: Requesting approval to go ahead and authorize replacement to LED lighting.  
Motion to authorize \$3780 for the lighting fixtures in Poppin Hall (phase 1); Todd Callewaert; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ben Holecoust, all approve.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lela Creighton  
Secretary