

MINUTES OF CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING – APRIL 18, 2005

Attendees:

Pastor Graff
Gail Begalla
Mark Elgart
Carol Schmauch
Rodney Murray
Charles Berry
Linda Moresi
Charlotte Fairman
Greg Borachok
Jack Heberlig
Bob Rhyne

Call to order

PRAYER AND DEVOTION WAS OFFERED BY PASTOR GRAFF

OLD BUSINESS – Two corrections to the minutes from March 21. First correction, on suggestion made to get a person from St Mark's, it should read that to get a youth ministry going in our church this is in tandem with the associate pastor or until we get an associate pastor, not replacing the associate pastor and two, the two young people to sit in on the church council, the suggestions were Katie McConnell and Matt King.

NEW BUSINESS

Mandy has turned in her resignation. She has been very active in her participation on the Church Council but is now being called to lead in another direction. We will miss her.

Pastor Graff stated that there would be a council retreat on April 30th at Merrywood.

The letter that Carrie's son sent to the church, the suggestion was made to pray for him that the Lord leads him in the right direction.

The money that we collected from the Lenten services of \$1,130.56 goes to Habitat for Humanity for Lutheran Homes.

Advertising the church to get our name out to the public especially for visitors and people moving into the area, by putting in the Charlotte Observer under the church listings in the Saturday and Wednesday edition for \$25.00 for five lines was made as a motion, voted and passed. Again it was mentioned putting up a sign at Marsh and South Blvd.

Pastor suggested having a Monday night service during the summer season to bring in those who can't make the services on the weekend and to appeal to those who like a more contemporary service.

Pastor introduced a promotional piece which was a brochure designed like a rainbow of everything that St Luke's had to offer and hand this out to new members, visitors or as an introduction to St Luke's.

Worship and Music – Patrick Lemons has graciously offered to become the head usher. There is a need for one more usher. Need to see that whoever is going to do the reading at both of the services needs to be receiving this info so they can familiarize themselves before the reading.

The hymns need to be more familiar hymns that everyone or most people recognize.

Learning ministry – hand outs on the “Forty Days of Purpose” which will start in the Fall. The council needs to get going on facilitating the training, get training kits, and how to proceed.

Christian Ministry is organizing a “Circus Spectacular” in the Parish Hall for the children's ministry through the summer months.

Youth ministry– Mark wants to get the youth organized and involved in youth activities. Joel Merritt will be involved with a sleep over involving other Lutheran churches. The goal is to have something for the youth every month.

On the progress of the call for an associate pastor, there are a few avenues that we can explore to get an associate pastor. There is AIM, (Associate In Ministry) a theology student in training, and an intern for a year. These would be good sources to draw from and hopefully have someone installed by the Fall.

Social Ministry – Virginia and Ernest are not stepping down, but would like to have Drop in only once a month.

Again it was brought up that we still are losing members and we need to get people into the church and involved with the life of the church. As mentioned above on the promotional material have the church members and/or the youth hand this out to the neighborhood.

Financial – we are again losing members and are behind on our pledges. We need to get people in and pledging as we are getting further and further behind on our daily operation of maintaining the church. We all agreed that the congregation needs to be informed about how critical this has become. Bob will talk to the both services and have Jack follow-up in a few Sundays to explain what needs to be done to keep the church going.

A new format will be coming out on the newsletter to have a new look.

Property Committee – Gale took a tour of the Church which took about 4 hours. The church does need work, especially the outside in the playground area. We will try to start with the front

and work back adding plants, etc. and trying to get the church to look inviting so visitors will come and attend St. Lukes.

The ice machines were both broken. One has been fixed and the other is being replaced by a reconditioned ice machine.

Stewardship – again the emphasis is on getting new members and maintaining our members.

Meeting was adjourned.