

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Agenda
9 October 2008

Present: Rod Marschke, Hope Pederson, Pastor Karen Williams, John Dahl, Pastor Rich Larson, Jon Pedersen, Val Boettcher, Tom Hanson, Brad Anderson, Jenny Schoolman, Jean Groppoli, Tim Pilquist, Chuck Davis and Constance Nelson

Absent: Bayard Johnson, Tina Kindschy and Joy Montgomery

1. Our **meeting was called to order** by Jon @ 7:00pm
2. Pastor Rich led us in **devotions** centered on Matthew, Chapter 22:1-14 where Christ told the parable of the wedding feast where "many are invited but few are chosen". What was required of the guests who were invited to the wedding feast? What was expected of those who accepted the invitation and attended? What are God's expectations of us regarding our own "preparedness" for accepting his invitation?
3. **Motion to approve amended September council minutes** was made by John, second by Jenny. **Motion carried.**
4. Update on **SSCDC / Pony Pre-school transition** by **Hope** who advised that the shared financials and payment schedule are being finalized but no issues - it is going very smoothly. **Karen** advised that all SSCDC payroll has now been closed except for W2 forms. Proposal to have combined Pony Pre-school and BLC Sunday School worship concert sometime in future; Karen has it on her future ideas list and plans to pursue.
5. **Hope** shared highlights from her **Treasurer's Report** including the GREAT NEWS that we exceeded the matching grant challenge in our 3 month giving so we will receive the full \$10k match!! All SSCDC debt has now been consolidated to total \$89,626.43 in a single 5 year loan originated 30 September 2008 @ 7% interest with monthly payments of \$1780. **Motion** by Tom to retroactively approve the formation of the loan to pay the consolidated SSCDC debt ... second by John. **Motion carried.**
6. Action Team updates
 - **Jean** asked for discussion and decisions regarding follow-up on the Stewardship Drive initiatives.
 - Discipleship Cards - offer this tool to the "Cultural Development" team
 - Brag Board - Constance encouraged staff to take any of their info they would like to keep; okay to disassemble the board and it is likely losing its impact over time w/out updates
 - Written Statements - Jenny to link in with the new "Cultural Development" team
 - Strive to Tithe - suggestion by Hope to include Strive to Tithe cards in the Q updates
 - **Andree'** organized a meeting for all those who expressed an interest in Stewardship during the special Congregational meeting ...group will be called the **Cultural Development Action team**. Next meeting with be held 21 October @7pm.

7. Pastor's reports

- **Karen** shared that people are enthusiastically getting involved in a number of great Youth and Family activities this fall.
- **Rich** highlighted his intention to kick-off the Koinonia Groups on 19 October with a letter to the congregation going out 10 October and follow-up phone calls planned. Rich will also be seeking support during the annual meeting to approve sign-up of our church with the Book of Faith Initiative of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The book of Faith Initiative invites the whole church to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word. **Motion** by Rod to support Rich's plan to seek support from the congregation as described above at the annual meeting, second by Hope. **Motion carried.**

8. Jon provided an update on **Council and Officer Nomination** candidates and plans for our 26 October Annual Meeting. We have a full slate of officer candidates: President (Chuck Davis), Vice President (Joy Montgomery), Treasurer (Hope Pederson) and Secretary (Constance Nelson). Vacating council positions will be Brad Anderson, Tina Kindschy, Jon Pedersen and Rod Marschke ... we will be seeking 3 new council member candidates for election by the congregation at the annual meeting.

9. **Motion** to adjourn by Hope, second by Constance. **Motion carried.** We adjourned @ 8:15pm. Jon led us in a closing prayer.

Constance Nelson, Secretary