

**RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 11, 2012**

Members Present: Ben Barr, Rob Barr, Dave Brandes, Scott Hardman, Mot Hedges, Kathy Killand, and Sandy Steele.

Members Absent/ excused: Dave Larkin

Advisory Members Present: Pastor Steve Ernst and Rich Olsen

The Regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, September 11, 2012, beginning at 7:05 p.m., President Mot Hedges being in the chair. Dave Brandes served to take the minutes of the meeting in the absence of the secretary, Dave Larkin. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Ernst.

Lead Pastor's Report – Pastor Ernst presented the report. Highlights include:

1. August 2012 attendance weekly average was 319 compared to the August 2011 average of 292. YTD 2012 attendance was 345 compared to YTD 2011 of 351.
2. The Staff Retreat focused on building team ministries and on developing relationships between staff members.
3. Initial feedback termed the 2012 The Block Party a success with over 300 children and young people attending. The Block Party leadership plan to complete a follow-up report.
4. The Stewardship Program will focus on “spiritual gifts” discovery.

Financial Officer's Report – Rich Olsen presented the financial report showing that YTD income through August for 2012, was \$514,350 compared to 478,345 through the same comparable period in 2011 and was above the expected budget assumption of income of \$492,960. Expenditures to-date totaled \$479,447, below the budgeted amount of \$513,063. The net cash flow for the year to-date is a positive \$34,903. The budget is based on a assumed income of \$780,000.

Consent Agenda --

Council approved the minutes of the regular Council Meeting of August 14, 2012.

Old Business

L-R Plan Update – Pastor Steve. Team met September 3, 2012. The main purpose was to introduce members to each other and to preview the two books we are using to guide the efforts. The team will meet every other week until the work has been completed. The next meeting Monday, September 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Constitution / Bylaws Briefing – September 23. The following council members volunteered to provide items for this HeBrews Café session:

Rob/Ben Barr – Juices

Dave Brandes – Breakfast Casserole

Mott Hedges – Fruit Tray

Kathy Killand – Brownies

Sandy Steele – Muffins

2013 Ministry Plan: Rob Barr moved, Sandy Steele seconded, and the Council approved referring the draft ministry plan, with minor editorial changes, to the Congregation.

Contemporary Music Update: Felicia Iedema has been hired as the temporary contemporary worship leader.

Vacation Status: The Council discussed proposed changes to the vacation policy proposed by Pastor Steve. Council will consider this proposal and entertain policy changes at a subsequent meeting.

New Business

LCMC Annual Meeting in Denver. Pastor Steve, Pastor Corey, and Marie Frame will be attending in Denver. **Scott Hardman moved, Ben Barr seconded, and the council approved a motion to assign Pastor Corey and Maria Frame as delegates from RLC.**

Nominating Committee Appointments/Financial Officer Recommendation. Three positions on this committee need to be filled during the Annual Meeting. The Council concurred to place an awareness announcement, but not a solicitation for volunteers, in the bulletin. Rich Olsen's term is expiring also. Council members need to recommend an individual to fill the position of Financial Officer. These actions will be taken up at the next meeting.

Annual Meeting Agenda. Mott Hedges presented a draft agenda for the 2012 Annual Congregation Meeting. Council members were asked to review and comment on the draft before or during our next meeting.

Benevolence Status. There are funds remaining in the benevolence budgets. Pastor Steve will work with the mission team leads and provide a recommendation at our next Council meeting.

Council Portion of the 2013 Budget. The Council members discussed salary adjustments to include cost of living and merit salary increases. No actions were taken at this meeting. The Council plans to complete proposals for the salary and other council budgets at the next meeting.

Fund Raising Option for GNMM's Fall Craft Fair Event. Betty Quinn, in behalf of the Good News Media Ministry, sent a letter to the Congregation President Mot Hedges to request approval of a fund raising raffle rather than a silent auction to raise funds. **Ben Barr moved, Sandy Steele seconded, and council approved the request for GNMM to use a fund raising raffle.**

The meeting was closed with praying the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 10.00.

For Secretary Dave Larkin,
Dave Brandes