

**Richland Lutheran Church
 Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
 Date: September 29, 2009**

Members Present: Valerie Bettinson, Mot Hedges, Carl Imhoff, Dawn Salyer, Bob Thompson, Mark Underwood, Dave Wunschel

Members Absent/Excused: Lori Lieske

Ex-Officio Members: Pastor Martens

Guest: Debbie Hardman, Treasurer

Topic	Findings, Discussion, Conclusions, and Motions	Follow-up Actions
Call to Order	By President Carl Imhoff	
Open with Prayer	By Pastor Martens	
Approval of Minutes	M/S/P motion to approve minutes of 9-9-09 meeting	
Financial Report	By Debbie Hardman, Treasurer	
Pastor's Report	By Pastor Martens	
Common Consent Agenda	No Common Consent Agenda items submitted for this meeting	
Old Business		
Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The budget has been changed to show we are living within our means. • Benevolence was cut from 12% to 10% • Long range plan was cut from \$7500 to \$3000. • We can't look for a associate pastor until we know what is going on with the ELCA • 1% salary increase for staff. • Rethink allocation of benevolence money. <p>M/S/P -- approve the budget with a 1% salary increase for staff</p> <p>In our current benevolence of \$80,000 about \$59,000 goes to ELCA. We can accommodate people who want none of their money to go to ELCA synod.</p> <p>We can put all the money in a fund until a decision is made on the ELCA. We will still fund uncontroversial issues like Lutheran World Relief.</p> <p>M/S/P -- for the last two quarters, calendar year 2009, that the distribution of these funds be set in reserve until the congregation decides its future connection to the ELCA.</p>	Bob and Val will work together to determine where to spend the benevolence money.
ELCA Situation and Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need a special congregational meeting to vote on leaving the ELCA. • Call two separate meetings on October 25. • There will be special discussion meetings between services on 10/11 and 10/18 to give more information about options like LCMC and Core. • Must vote with a 2/3 approval to leave the ELCA 	

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	<p>then wait 90 days and revote with another 2/3 approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If vote is approved to leave ELCA we need to then vote immediately to join LCMC or something else. • We need written ballots for the vote. • The process needs to be clear to the congregation. <p>M/S/P – that a special congregational meeting is held prior to the annual meeting on October 25 to vote on whether to leave the ELCA or not.</p>	
New Business		
None		
New Agenda Items		
Madrigal Dinner	M/S/P -- hold a Madrigal dinner as a fundraiser for music ministry	
Announcements		
Next Meeting	October 13, 2009	
Close with Prayer	By Pastor Martens	
Adjournment	By President Carl Imhoff	