

**RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2013**

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

Members Absent: Dave Larkin

Advisory Members Present: Pastor Ernst, Rich Olsen

Guests: Corey Smith

The Regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, September, 2013, at 7:00 P.M. President Mot Hedges was the chair at the meeting and Kathy Killand filled in as secretary for Dave Larkin's absence. The meeting was opened with prayer by Mot Hedges.

Lead Pastor's Report - Pastor Ernst presented the Lead Pastor's Report:

1. Attendance – August 2013, 318 as compared to 319 in August 2012. 2013 YTD, 334 compared to 2012 YTD, 347
2. Pastoral Acts: August 17, Robert Dagle and Vanessa Lebarier. Memorials: August 2 for Mike Dickey.
3. Staff retreat went well. Three days at Bar M Ranch. The Staff discussed the book "The Equipping Church."
4. Keith Lorzano, a 17 year old high school junior, was hired as an interim musician. Keith plays the organ and piano. He will play at the Sunday 8:30 A.M. service.

Financial Officer's Report – Rich Olsen presented the financial report showing income through August for 2013, we are \$30,000 in the red for our budget. Tithing is down. At this time, Rich projects that at year's end we will be about \$10,000 to \$15,000 less than required by the budget. September is a five week month which adds some hope. The budget for 2013 is based on an assumed income of \$800,000. Reserve funds could be used for the shortfalls, if necessary.

Common Consent: Council approved the following common consent agenda items:

- Approval of the minutes for August 13, 2013.
- Evaluation – approval of staff evaluations.

Old Business

- The Long Range Plan was discussed. Not many came to the meeting on Sunday, September 8th (only 8 people attended.) The Long Range Plan is not a top/down type of plan. The congregation needs to understand the commitment involved in Guide and Vision. Pastor Steve said his sermon next Sunday (and the sermon series) will emphasize the heart of the Guide and Vision. Another meeting is scheduled for next Monday night to explain the plan.

The Board discussed, “The cost for the architect discussed in the Guide and Vision?” David Brandes noted there are three firms that have been chosen for proposals. The bids were: \$5,800 with follow up expected; \$16,000, and \$20,000. All listed fees were for a particular scope of work, plus a listing of their billable charges for additional work. He estimated that \$25,000 might be needed for the architect’s fee next year. The Council discussed how this fee would be funded (it is not a budget line item). The congregation will have to be informed and aware of the funding needs.

The Council discussed proceeding with the special congregational meeting to consider the Guide and Vision proposed for September 29, 2013? Pastor Steve suggested that we have a special congregational meeting on September 29th for information – and only for a vote if a vote is called for. The vote could be postponed to the annual meeting.

- Ministry Plan – revisions were made and distributed by email. We’re waiting for more revisions.
- 2014 Budget – Rich proposed a budget for the council to consider. A special Council meeting was set for September 24, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. to go over the proposed 2014 budget.

New Business

- Nominating Committee (Mark Underwood, Tracy Moran, Jon Erlandson are coming off the committee. Eunice Weible, Carol Siefken, and Ted Stunkel are remaining on the committee.) David Brandes, and Mot Hedges are willing to be on the committee. (Sandy will call Peggy Pilger, Shirley Fast, or Lisa Corning to see if one of them might be willing to serve.)
- Seth Peterson request: Seth and his family lived in one of the duplexes and fixed it up for allowing his family to live there. He has decided that he would like to go to the Calvary Chapel School of Ministry in Costa Mesa, California. They left to pursue his personal call. He is asking for prayer and funds. Sandy made a motion and Scott seconded it, to publish his letter to the congregation and set up a fund for congregants to donate to them. Money distributed to this fund will not exceed need. (RLC helped Seth and his family when he needed it most and now has the opportunity to support his mission in Christ.) Motion passed.
- Music Ministry Search (update) – Luke Austin from Dallas, Texas was Skyped on Monday. The Music Worship committee would like to bring him and his wife to Richland. Rob moved that \$3,000 be set aside from the contingency fund to bring potential candidates to RLC. Sandy seconded it. Motion passed.

The meeting was closed with praying the Lord’s Prayer and adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Kathy Killand,
Substitute Secretary