

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
April 10, 2012

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

Members Absent/excused: Mot Hedges

Advisory Members Present: Pastor Steve Ernst and Rich Olsen

Guests: Debbie Stankovich

The Regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, April 10, 2012, at 7:05 p.m., Vice President Dave Brandes being in the chair and the secretary being present. The meeting was opened with a devotional reading by Dave Brandes followed by prayer by Pastor Ernst.

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

1. Average church attendance through March 2012 was 358 compared to 373 through the same period in 2011.
2. Corey Smith received his confirmation from LCMC.
3. Richland Lutheran Church's participation in ShareFest this year resulted in volunteers collectively contributing 1,255.75 hours resulting in completion of several projects at Claybell Park and the making and donation of 36 quilts, 11 baby quilts, 8 lap robes, and 107 baby booties.
4. Ann Brandes is taking the lead for the Jefferson Elementary School tutoring program. Currently there are twenty students being tutored.
5. The initial six sessions of Trinity Living have been completed with three to go. Debbi Stankovich is working on the Coach Training program.

Financial Officer's Report – Rich Olsen presented the financial report showing that income through March for 2012, was \$199,095 as compared to \$173,791 through the comparable period in 2011 and was above the expected budget assumption of income of \$177,840. Expenditures to-date totaled \$175,582, below the budgeted \$184,599. The net cashflow for the year to-date is a positive \$30,272. The budget for 2012 is based on an assumed income of \$780,000.

Approval of Minutes

- **Council approved the minutes of the regular Council Meeting on March 13, 2012**

Information – A presentation prepared by Dr. Bobby Gilstrap in conjunction with Christian Law Association was shown discussing legal concerns to be considered in church constitutions and bylaws. Areas discussed included making members aware of current Bylaws, defining membership qualifications, resolution of disputes without going to court, qualifications for ordination, and designated contributions.

Old Business

Status of Staff Benefits Task Force – Task force met a couple of weeks ago. Have contacted the LCMC about retirement and health benefits they might have available. The Task Force will have an additional meeting with John Putz to discuss more health insurance information.

Response to 2010 Audit Committee Report:

- **Council approved, subject to their agreement, to appoint Debbie Hardman & Ginnette Ernst to the Finance Committee.**
- **By consensus Council agreed that the Finance Committee has responsibility to revise Finance Handbook if required to meet Audit concerns about the differences between practices and policy for investments.**

Staff Positions and Job Descriptions:

- **Council approved the Job description for Property and Grounds Coordinator.**
- **Council approved the Job Description for a part time Bookkeeper.**

Three Brothers Cleaning Service:

- **Council approved paying Three Brothers Cleaning Service at the rate of \$1,250/month starting with July 1, 2012.**

Long-Range Plan - A copy of the “12 Keys to an Effective Church” is being purchased for each Council member as background for the start of Long Range planning.

Revised Job Description for Corey Smith:

- **Approved the Job Description for Associate Pastor and a resolution recommending to the Congregation that a Call be extended to Corey Smith as an Associate Pastor with an emphasis on leading the Education and Men’s Ministry Teams.**

By consensus the Council agreed to call a Special meeting of the Congregation after the 11:00 am service on May 6, 2012, for the purpose of considering a Call to Corey Smith as Associate Pastor.

The meeting was closed with praying the Lord’s Prayer and adjourned at 10:23 pm.

Dave Larkin,
Secretary