

**RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2012**

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

Advisory Members Present: Pastor Steve Ernst, Rich Olsen

The Regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, February 14, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., President Mot Hedges being in the chair and the secretary being present. The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Ernst.

Lead Pastor's Report - Pastor Ernst presented the Lead Pastor's Report. Average church attendance through January 2012 was 345 compared to 364 through the same period in 2011. If New Year's Day Sunday was excluded this month's average would have been 366. Mark Willy, the Property Manager has submitted his resignation. Richland Lutheran Church's ShareFest work project on March 24th will be Claybell Park. The RLC Foundation has provided a grant to purchase the curriculum for the new tutoring program at Jefferson Elementary School. The program will start in March. RLC is cutting back providing the worship service at the Lutheran Senior Center from two Sunday's per month to one Sunday per month. The LCMC Northwest District Conference will be held at RLC the last weekend in April.

The church phone and internet systems were down most of last week as well as some this week. New phone lines need to be installed as well as new equipment. The staff will be talking to Charter Communications about providing services.

Financial Officer's Report - Rich Olsen presented the financial report showing that income through January for 2012, was \$71,980 as compared to \$61,551 through the comparable period in 2011 and was above the expected budget assumption of income of \$62,400. Expenditures to-date totaled \$48,686, below the budgeted \$61,533. The net cashflow for the year to-date is a positive \$23,294. The budget for 2012 is based on an assumed income of \$780,000.

Common Consent Agenda - The following Common Consent agenda items were approved:

- **Approved the minutes of the regular Council meeting of January 14, 2012.**
- **Approve distribution of all loose cash offering on Saturday, April 28, 2012 for LCMC-NW District, which also will be the closing worship service for the LCMC-NW Gathering at RLC.**
- **Approve reception of new members on February 12, 2012;**
 - **Ann Ledezma, Robby**
 - **Darrell & Trina Miles, Daniel, Andrew, Hans, Kyia, Soren, Trell**
 - **Pamela Pawlak**
 - **Kendra Prothero**
 - **Karla Shelton**
 - **Henry & Lillian Solbrack**
 - **Mike & Elizabeth Striefel**

- **Approve Erlan Leitz to a 3 year term on the Finance Audit Committee.**

Old Business:

Staff Benefits Task Force - Sandy Steele reported that Ken Meek has agreed to serve on the Staff Benefits Committee.

Financial Audit for 2010 – Council requested that staff, through Pastor Ernst, provide Council with their proposed responses to the Audit recommendations. An update is requested from staff at the regular Council meeting in March.

- **Council approved accepting the 2010 Richland Lutheran Church Financial Audit Report & Certificate of Financial Review.**

Benevolence Budget - Council agreed that Pastor Ernest would work with Ben Barr, Dave Larkin, Jon Page, and Val Silva to provide recommendations to Council for the Benevolence Budget for 2012.

- **Council approved establishing the Benevolence Budget line items for \$6,400 for the LCMC National and \$700 for LCMC District.**

New Business:

Staff Relations Committee - After discussion on the need to update membership of the Staff Relations Committee the question on the usefulness and need for the committee was discussed. The Staff relations Committee is required by the RLC Constitution (C12.04). Pastor Ernst will discuss the usefulness of the Staff Relations Committee with church staff. Further action was deferred until the March meeting.

Annual Bylaw and Continuing Resolution Review – A bylaw (C11.06.01) requires that the Congregation Council shall conduct an annual review of the bylaws and continuing resolutions before the end of June. While there was general agreement that the bylaws are in need of review no plan has been formulated as to the process for performing this review.

Renovaré Conference Steering Committee

- **Council approved entering into the minutes that a Steering Committee has been established for the April 20, 2013 Renovaré Essentials Conference with initial members of Rich Barchet, Ginnette Ernst, Shirley Fast, Dave Hogan, Elaine Hogan, Carol Larkin, Dave Larkin, Traci Moran, Karin Nikola, Rich Olsen, Chuck Richardson, Judy Riggers, Russ Warren, and Joanne Woehle. The goal of the conference is to encourage the establishment of small groups seeking to make their members more Christ-like.**

Council Review of Staff Evaluations – It was discussed that Council had taken no action on questions contained in Vice President Brandes' report on his review of staff evaluations presented to Council in January. Questions for consideration by Council included moving the timing of future evaluations to an earlier date to coincide with annual budget preparation, any changes in Corey Smith's position upon meeting requirements permitting ordination, and

whether Council should take actions to further develop staff leadership skills. Any action on these suggestions was deferred until March.

The meeting was closed with prayer. The meeting adjourned at 09:23 pm.

Dave Larkin,
Secretary