

## **MELLINGERS LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, the July meeting of the Church Council was held with the following people in attendance: Robin Barr, Randy Brubaker, Ryan Brubaker, Pastor Tim Craven, Rick Dillon, Ron Gehr, Dave Haldeman, Gail Harker, Sam Heiser, Kristi Leonhard, Kelly Parrish, Dick Raffauf, Nick Rampolla, Carl Tobias, Vicar Tina Toburen and Shari Weaver

Absent: Tess Freeman

Council President, Rick Dillon, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**DEVOTIONS:** Sam Heiser led the council in devotions with a reading from Matthew the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter pertaining to the healing touch of God. Vicar Tina Toburen led us in a prayer.

**PASTOR'S CONCERNS:** Pastor Tim raised a concern regarding the tone of the council meetings, the usage of the undesignated memorial funds and the concern of the state of office and Sunday School equipment within the church.

**TIME OF THANKSGIVING:** Everyone shared something that they were thankful about at the commencement of the meeting.

**COUNCIL MINUTES:** Church Council President Rick Dillon turned the meeting over to Vice-President Dick Raffauf. Members of the Council reviewed the minutes of the June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Dick Raffauf asked for any comments, questions, or corrections.

Gail Harker made a motion to accept the minutes, Sam Heiser seconded, and the motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Members of the Council reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Dick Raffauf asked for any comments, questions, or corrections.

Nick Rampolla corrected the amounts of the June 30<sup>th</sup> Treasurer's Report.

The staff will make a decision at the next staff meeting as to the wording on the purchase of the brick for the Scheoneck Veteran's Memorial.

Funds for the Elva Meckley Memorial are designated to go to the Vicar Fund.

Gail Harker made a motion that the money in the current Vicar Fund remain in the Vicar Fund and all money slated for the current Vicar Fund remain in the Vicar Fund to go towards obtaining the next Vicar; Ryan Brubaker seconded and the motion carried.

The church council discussed the placement of the undesignated memorial funds. Gail Harker and Kristi Leonhard stated that after reviewing previous minutes that an error was made in placing these undesignated memorial funds in the pipe organ project instead of leaving it in the office equipment fund.

Gail Harker made a motion to overturn the previous decision to move the \$1,058 from the office equipment fund to the organ pipe fund project and that any future undesignated memorial funds go towards the organ pipe project; Kristie Leonhard seconded and the motion carried.

Carl Tobias stated that the total project will cost approximately \$15,000.00. Carl stated that he will need approximately \$1,500.00 to finish the next step of the project.

Ron Gehr made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Dave Haldeman seconded, and the motion carried.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Members of the Council reviewed the Pastor's report.

Ron Gehr made a motion to accept the Pastor's Report, Randy Brubaker seconded, and the motion carried.

**VICAR'S REPORT:** Members of the Council reviewed the Vicar's report.

Vicar Tina gave her heartfelt thanks to the council, the internship committee and the church family for their support this year.

Vicar Tina stated that she would appreciate that the Head Usher and/or Ushers inform her of their absence from Sunday services.

Randy Brubaker made a motion to accept the Vicar's Report, Shari Weaver seconded, and the motion passed.

**150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT:** The minutes were read from the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Gail Harker inquired what should be placed on the banner for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. It was stated that the banner should have 1861-2011 appear on it.

Randy Brubaker made a motion to accept the minutes, Ryan Brubaker seconded and the motion carried.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES:** The minutes were read from the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Gail Harker made a motion to accept the minutes, Ron Gehr seconded and the motion carried.

**WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE MINUTES:** The June 29<sup>th</sup> minutes were reviewed.

Gail Harker mentioned that the new choir gowns are wonderful. Nancy Hain washed and removed the stains from the newly acquired choir gowns.

Gail Harker made a motion that we place an ad in the Lancaster Saturday paper for the cost of \$12.24 per week if a member covers the price of the first year of publication, Randy Brubaker seconded and the motion carried.

Bob Getz made the recommendation that we take out half a pew approximately half way in the middle of the pews to allow handicapped access. Later conversations were that wheel chair accessibility be made available in the back where the chairs are located. Dave Haldeman made the recommendation that wheel chairs can be placed upfront where the bell tables are located.

Carl Tobias stated that there is an evening prayer service in the green book with chanting and scripture reading which can be led by lay persons. From 5:00 – 5:45 pm the worship and music committee would like to hold an evening prayer service on Saturday evenings on a trial basis.

The Worship and Music Committee made recommendations for chancel renovations to move the altar forward to within a foot and a half from the top step level and go across the front of the church. The choir would be placed in the back of the chancel. There would be room to have the bell tables in the back behind the altar. These changes would help prevent the elderly from falling and the usage of the side room is odd for visitors and it allows for flexibility in the chancel itself. It would be a big change but worship and music feels this would be a good change for the congregation.

A concern was raised about the noise level before the Sunday service. This is a time to prepare for worship and meditation. Members of the congregation have expressed a concern of not being able to hear the pre-service music. Shari Weaver made a recommendation that we place a note in a different area of the bulletin that silence should be observed prior to the service. Carl stated that he feels it is within our best interest that the pastor announced the importance of silence prior to the worship service. Carl suggested a sign be placed in the narthex to "Please observe silence as we enter God's House to prepare for worship"

Gail Harker made a motion to accept the minutes, Sam Heiser seconded, motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Office Opportunities: Office Equipment and connectivity issues were reviewed. Kelly Parrish will look at establishing a Technology Task Force to help us move through the office technology issues.
2. Water Testing: The water testing came back with excellent results.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. The church secretary asked everyone to test their keys on the back door. If their key does not work, please notify the secretary so she can make you another key.

Dave Haldeman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ron Gehr seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM. Pastor Tim said a prayer and we ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kelly Parrish  
Council Secretary