

MELLINGERS LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On August 9, 2011, the August meeting of the Church Council was held with the following people in attendance: Dick Raffauf, Kristi Leonhard, Randy Brubaker, Nick Rampolla, Ron Gehr, Carl Tobias, Pastor Tim Craven, Ryan Brubaker, Dave Haldeman, Robin Barr, Tess Freeman

Absent: Gail Harker, Sam Heiser, Shari Weaver, Rick Dillon, Kelly Parish

Guests: Rodger Sweigart, Joe Brubaker, David Rampolla

Council Vice President, Dick Raffauf, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

DEVOTIONS: Dick read a devotion from the “True Son of God” and referenced Matthew 8:25-26. Pastor Tim offered a prayer.

TIME OF THANKSGIVING: Everyone shared something that they were thankful about since the last meeting.

COUNCIL MINUTES: Dick asked everyone to read the minutes from the last meeting and asked if there were any comments or corrections. Randy Brubaker made a motion to accept the July council meeting minutes, Robin Barr seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Pastor Tim asked Nick Rampolla about the wording on the brick purchased for the Schoeneck Veteran’s Memorial; it says “Mellingers Lutheran Church”.

GUESTS: Rodger Sweigart was in attendance with a Thrivent Financial for Lutherans update. A sum of \$1,800.00 for 2010 and YTD 2011 has been going into the Needy Fund. \$1,663.00 Choice Dollars will be coming to Mellingers and the Thrivent committee would like to designate this money for the National Youth Assembly and trip to New Orleans in July 2012. Since this is a change of designated funds, it requires a vote. Randy Brubaker made a motion to change the designation of funds from the Needy Fund to the National Youth Assembly. Kristi Leonard seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Rodger said he would put an article in the newsletter. It was also mentioned that the New Windsor trip planned for August 13 was postponed and it is hoped to make the spring trip. Carl asked if there was any further word for money available for the October Music program. Rodger said he would check on this.

Joe Brubaker was present with a Property Report. The central air conditioning in the main sanctuary went out. Service was called in and the repairs made. The issue with the thermostat in the youth room downstairs was the circulation unit in the Scout closet that was turned off. We must be aware of this in the future. About a month ago, the new walls in the sanctuary were wet from water coming through. Sensenig Roofing was called in and a quote for \$1,700.00 was presented, plus the additional outside wall where there was no caulk around the windows and water was coming in. Randy Brubaker was involved with this repair and the work has been done and we are waiting for the final bill. There is a major malfunction with the well sucking up dirt and clogging the filters. It was cleaned and flushed and the filters were changed. This was a definite improvement, but there is still a lot of dirt collected in the

filters. The plumber was called and tried to pull the pump out and it got stuck. Joe will continue to monitor the well and feels it is OK for now, but believes the walls are caving in and will cause continued problems in the future. He would suggest drilling a new well outside as close to the building as possible and estimates \$5,600.00 minimum for this work. The testing of the drinking water proved to be safe. Nick mentioned there is \$19,000 in the building and repair fund for the roofing repair and the new well when it is required.

David Rampolla was in attendance to review his report and make recommendations on the office computer equipment, network, telephone, and printer problems we have been experiencing for quite a while. A detailed report was given to each council member. In order to provide a stable, reliable, long-term platform with the least amount of cost, David broke down the work into four phases. Phase I being the service changeover from our current Windstream to Blue Ridge, while still maintaining the Meet Me Line. Phase 2 is building a new infrastructure with additional hardware required. Phase 3 is upgrading the client side systems which will require purchasing a new laptop and a desktop computer. Phase 4 consists of allowing for expansion which includes printing options and additional software. David would coordinate the whole project. Pastor Tim asked for his fee and Nick Rampolla stated he and Pat would take care of this. The church certainly wants to compensate David for his time and talents.

Randy Brubaker made a motion to proceed with Phase 1 and 2, seconded by Ron Gehr, and the motion carried.

TREASURE'S REPORT: Members of Council reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Pastor Tim asked for a motion for Nick to write a check to the Schoeneck Fire Department for \$100.00 as we do annually. Dick Raffauf made a motion, Ryan Brubaker seconded, and the motion carried. Nick commented that there are available funds in the Vicar Fund of approximately \$3,000.00 that will be put into the new Vicar Fund. With an \$8,000.00 checkbook balance, Nick suggested we pay one month of hunger appeal and mission support which we are currently behind on. This would lower the general checking account by \$2,000.00. Randy Brubaker made a motion to pay one month of hunger appeal and mission support, Ryan Brubaker seconded, and the motion carried. Nick mentioned the need for current signatures on the Edward Jones account and will fill out the necessary paperwork. There is \$24,454.00 in the money market account and bonds are getting over 5% right now. The Verizon Bond has an interest rate of 5.125%, JP Morgan is at 5.5%, and Goldman Sachs at 5%. Nick mentioned that if we run short on receipts, we can use the money market funds plus the \$1,000.00 in interest is available. There was a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Randy Brubaker, seconded by Dave Haldeman, and the motion carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT: The Pastor mentioned that he had lunch with Rick Dillon and asked for the Council's reconciliation as Rick would like to return as President of Church Council as he has not officially resigned. The Pastor reminded us of: blessings – sin – judgment – repentance – forgiveness. Although there are no special disciplinary rules for council members, any future issues would be handled following the member procedures. Several council members voiced their feelings that Rick should explain his actions in order to clear the air. Pastor Tim will be meeting again with Rick and encouraged members of council to also reach out directly with any concern they may have. Pastor Tim distributed the disbursement for the Needy Fund account and stated there is a continued need for help. He also asked the Council to approve vacation on Sunday, August 21st, as his family is planning to be in Western PA visiting family August 19-23. This request is made since his family was unable to take an

earlier planned vacation due to Kim's eye problems. Dave Haldeman made a motion to approve this vacation request, Ron Gehr seconded, and the motion carried. Randy Brubaker made a motion to accept the Pastor's report, Ryan Brubaker seconded, and the motion was approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: Minutes from the August 2 meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept this report was made by Randy Brubaker, seconded by Dave Haldeman, and the motion carried. Dick Raffauf asked if we know of our obligation for the C.A.L.M. building project. The amount is unknown as this time.

SOCIAL MINISTRY REPORT: The minutes from the June 4 meeting were reviewed. Dick Raffauf made a motion to accept the minutes, Ron Gehr seconded, and the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Office equipment was already discussed earlier in the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Horn of Africa Drought Relief – Pastor Tim asked if the church boxes could be placed in the back of the church for donations for this critical cause, as well as leaving out the Youth Gathering jug. Randy Brubaker made a motion to put the church boxes out for donation through September, Tess Freeman seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Ron Gehr made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Randy Brubaker seconded the motion, the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM and we closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Tess Freeman
Assistant Secretary to Church Council