

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

The Church Council met on October 11, 2011, with the following people in attendance: Rick Dillon, Dick Raffauf, Randy Brubaker, Nick Rampolla, Ron Gehr, Carl Tobias, Pastor Tim Craven, Ryan Brubaker, Dave Haldeman, Robin Barr, Gail Harker, Sam Heiser, Shari Weaver, Tess Freeman

Absent: Kristi Leonhard, Kelly Parrish

Guests: Steve Gehman, Joe Brubaker

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

Pastor Tim opened with prayer and a time for thanksgiving was shared.

Steve Gehman was in attendance on behalf of Boy Scout Troop 115. The Troop is considering the purchase of an enclosed trailer to haul camping equipment, but they cannot own the equipment. The Troop is asking the church, as the sponsor organization, if they would be willing to store, license, insure, and be responsible for upkeep of the trailer. At present the Troop could be responsible to pay for insurance, but that would not be a future guarantee. He asked the church council to consider this liability and discuss it as he knows the subject will come up again within the next year. Steve also thanked the church for past Eagle Scout projects, but wanted to advise the church they are not responsible to make projects available. However, if there is a project an Eagle Scout can do, he would ask that someone from the church meet with the Scout and set project guidelines.

Joe Brubaker distributed and reviewed the property committee report. Parts of this report will go into the next newsletter. He gave an update on the new well and said there will be an additional cost of approximately \$500.00 for sandstone and a screen liner which were not originally known. The organ pipe project is moving along but, unfortunately, will not be complete by the October Music Fest this coming weekend. Concerning the possible move of the communion rail, Joe would like to be involved directly and suggests a small committee be established to review options, pricing, and present these findings to the congregation. Bob Getz and Joe will work together to establish this committee. Joe also wanted Council to be aware of the many volunteers that give so much of their time and he encourages some type of recognition. Shari Weaver suggested that as part of the 150 anniversary celebration, that the property committee make a presentation of what they do and acknowledge and thank the many volunteers.

**COUNCIL MINUTES:** Rick 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 September 13 council meeting minutes, Ryan Brubaker seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**TREASURE'S REPORT:** Members of Council reviewed the Treasurer's Report. The proposed budget was approved at the September meeting and Nick commented that fuel oil could be higher, but that can be changed if brought up at the congregational meeting. Nick also pointed out the shortfall in the checking account of \$1,143.00 due to paying the fuel oil for the rest of this year. The rest of the checkbook funds are in good shape; Needy Fund, Chester Lutz Fund, Vicar Fund, Organ Pipe Fund, and

Sanctuary Improvements. October has five Sundays so, hopefully, the shortage will be covered through receipts for the month and we can pay Mission Support and Hunger Appeal. He recommends we wait to see how things look next month before taking any action. Rick said we will rely of the Treasurer's discretion. Nick suggested moving the Vicar Fund funds from the Ephrata National Bank checking account to the Susquehanna Bank money market account since it is not needed at this time; this motion was approved. Dick Raffauf made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Randy Brubaker seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Pastor Tim asked for how long we should keep the flood relief boxes out. It was suggested through Thanksgiving and everyone agreed. The Pastor also asked if there was a committee for Christmas decorating. Tess Freeman said she and Mel Brubaker are co-chairs and a committee is formed including Gail Harker, the Barr Family, and Kristi and Andy Leonhard. In January the committee reviewed what is needed for this year and Tess and Mel will shop in October. It was decided that due to the repairs made to the trees last year, new trees do not need to be purchased; however, some money will be spent on garland and bows. Randy Brubaker made a motion to approve the Pastor's report, Dave Haldeman seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING:** Minutes from the October 4 meeting were reviewed. The committee asked Council to review the list of Contribution Opportunities for clarification. After discussion and agreement, Randy Brubaker made a motion to delete the Sound System Fund, Discretionary Fund, and rename the Worship and Music Fund (Organ Pipes Addition) to the Organ Pipes Addition Fund. The motion was seconded by Shari Weaver and carried. Tess Freeman will advise Harriett. A motion to accept the Finance Committee Minutes was made by Randy Brubaker, seconded by Ryan Brubaker, and carried.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINUTES:** Approval was asked for the Christmas program to be held during worship service on Sunday, December 11, similar to last year's program; no Sunday School on Sunday, December 25; and no Sunday School on Sunday, January 1. Randy Brubaker made a motion to approve the Christmas program on December 11 during the 9:00 AM service, Rick Dillon made a motion to approve no Sunday School on December 25 and January 1. Both these motions were seconded by Robin Barr and carried. Shari also reported a loss of \$150.00 from the picnic. Pastor Tim is excited about the future of Sunday School with Internet, laptops, and big screen TV and supports their efforts to bring in young parents and their children.

**SOCIAL MINISTRY REPORT:** The minutes from the September 22 meeting were reviewed. Gail suggested a list of their events for 2012 so she can fill out the Thrivent paperwork.

**STEWARDSHIP MEETING:** The minutes from the October 3 meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the report was made by Dick Raffauf, seconded by Robin Barr, and the motion carried.

**WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE:** Minutes from the September 28 meeting were reviewed. Carl reminded and encouraged everyone to attend the October Music Fest on October 16. New communion assistants have been trained; including Joan Moore, Bonnie Weinhold, Pat Haller, and Cammy Brian. Dave Haldeman made a motion to accept the report, Sam Heiser seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Office Upgrades Update – Kelly Parrish submitted a report with noted improvements. Thanks again to David Rampolla for his help.
2. 150 Anniversary Committee – Pastor Tim reported that plans are coming along nicely. Crocks will be available by the end of October/beginning of November. Rev. John Minnich will preach on June 3 and the Bishop on June 10. The Five Area Cluster churches will also be involved, as well as information and history of various groups and organizations of the church. The celebration will begin on Christmas Eve. The committee will continue to call and arrange for speakers during the six month celebration.
3. Youth Gathering – Gail gave an update that six kids, two adults, and two young adults will travel to New Orleans next July. The full registration fee of \$315.00 has been received. They will continue to raise money for the adult registration fee, room and board, and airplane tickets. The sandwich sale orders are due on Sunday for pick up next Thursday and they will also be selling candles with a 50% profit. Another future fundraiser in February may be a Mardi Gras free meal with an opportunity to buy stock certifications to invest in our youth.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Congregational survey to be mailed to all members for information update.
2. Saturday evening Vesper service is going well as reported by Pastor Tim. He encourages everyone to attend this very refreshing ½ hour service.

Randy Brubaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ron Gehr seconded the motion, the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM and we closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Tess Freeman

Assistant Secretary to Church Council