

VERMONT 2008 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
January 20, 2008

The meeting called to order 11:30 AM at Vermont Lutheran Church by Council President, Peter Antonie. Pastor John Shep opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes from the Annual Meeting of Jan 14, 2007 were handed out, read and opened for discussion. A motion was made (Gary Olsen, Marguerite Parrell) and carried by voice vote of the congregation to approve the minutes.

Minutes from the Informational Meeting of Dec. 9, 2007 were reviewed. Motion was made to approve the minutes (Don Parrell and Jamie Hanson) and approved on a voice vote by the congregation.

Reports:

Pastor John's Report: Concerns included more visits needed to be made to shut-ins and youth ministry needed changes. Pastor John noted difficulties of being a single pastor to and meeting the needs of 3 very individual churches.

WELCA: Will be reorganized to increase participation of younger women.

Sunday School: Sara Herrling, superintendent, reported enrollment of 48 children.

Cemetary Committee: No report.

Building/Grounds: No new capital projects. New sign for outside the church is planned. Terry Dewitt is designing it.

President's Report Presented by Peter Antonie:

2008 Budget: Peter reviewed the proposed 2008 budget of \$149,323, describing it as a road map for the coming year. As per synod recommendation, approximately 10% of our total budget goes to mission. All profits from our annual Lute-fisk fund raiser are used to help fulfill our mission commitment. Peter explained our October resolution regarding undesignated memorial funds; 10% of undesignated memorial money exceeding \$1000 is transferred to the Endowment Account yearly. This year \$621 was so transferred.

Total pastoral cost is unknown at this time since we do not know the direction we will be taking when Pastor John's contract expires in August of 2008. The current budget was prepared anticipating a continued cost at the level we are currently paying Pastor John or another pastor with similar experience. This will gear us up for hiring a full-time pastor with a pay/benefit package of \$60 to \$70,000/annum when we are ready to put together a call package. If we are unable to meet the higher budget, we will have an informational meeting in 3-4 months to make final decisions about the budget and pastoral call. This will be the first time in Vermont's history that we have not shared pastoral time and expenses with other churches. Our options include going alone and calling a younger, less experienced pastor, recalling Pastor John or attempting to pair with another church(es) to continue sharing pastoral time/expenses. The congregation has indicated in prior surveys and discussions that they prefer to hire a full-time pastor on our own.

Congregational discussion of the proposed budget, stewardship, and options for pastoral call followed. Motion was made (Dan Brisky and Jane Hanson) to pass the proposed budget. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the congregation.

Elections for Council and other Elected Positions: Outgoing council members Jeff King and Don Parrell were thanked for their service. The following individuals were nominated to fill vacant church positions. Following the motion to accept the entire ballot as presented (Jane Hanson, Dave Dybdahl) the ballot was approved on a unanimous voice vote of the congregation present.

Trustee: Jill Brisky (first term)

Deacon: Bill Kennedy (first term)

Financial Secretary: Appointed by council. Joanne Skalet agreed to serve again.

Endowment Committee: no positions to fill

Sunday School Superintendent: Elected by Sunday School Board

Synod Assembly Representatives: Dave and Donna Dybdahl

2008 Nominating Committee: Appointed by Church Council

2008 Christmas Tree Committee: Doris Hayes, Ludolph Family, Herrling Family

Motion was made (Jane Hanson, Michael Dauck) to adjourn the meeting at Noon

Respectfully submitted by Bonnie Dauck, Vermont council secretary