

VERMONT CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

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DATE: 02-11-10 Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM. Pastor Chad led devotions on the topic of “bold faith” based on Acts 16.

PRESENT: Peter Antonie, Scott Berger , Jill Stone-Brisky, Pastor Chad Christensen, Bonnie Dauck, Virginia Johnson, Bill Kennedy, Ingerid Kvam, Stan Morley,

ABSENT: Patty Herrling

ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS:

WELCOME TO NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS: Virginia Johnson, Ingerid Kvam, Stan Morley

ELECTION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS: Nominated officers were elected by unanimous proclamation.
President: Peter Antonie , Vice-President: Stan Morley, Secretary: Bonnie Dauck, Treasurer: Patty Herrling

TEAM ASSIGNMENTS: Council liaisons for standing committees are as follows:

- **Outreach:** Bonnie Dauck
- **Building:** Patty Herrling
- **Global Mission:** Jill Stone Brisky
- **Sunday School:** Ingerid Kvam
- **Worship:** Ingerid Kvam
- **Stewardship:** Jill Stone Brisky
- **Confirmation/Adult Education:** Pastor Chad

PASTOR'S REPORT: Written report submitted by Pastor Chad.

- **Parish Statistics:** Home/Nursing Home Visits: Average about 16/month. Funeral: 1 (Clarence Benson)
- **Synod Mission Event:** Hosted at Vermont, Sunday Jan.31 with 20 attendees, who thanked women's group for meal. Meeting concerned new mission programs. Pastor Chad was invited to be on the committee for new church starts and renewal.
- **2010 National Census:** As a way to get better acquainted with our community, Pastor Chad is considering becoming a census taker April-June of this year. It would involve about 20 hours/month for the 3 months and he would be doing the job as a lay person, not a representative of Vermont. The council encouraged him to pursue the position, if he was able to do the job without it interfering with his duties at Vermont.
- **Wednesday Lenten Services at Vermont Church:** Will begin **Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17** at 7:00. 2000 postcards will be mailed out to invite the local community to joint in fellowship and worship at Vermont. Thanks to Scott Berger and Marcia Morley for arranging this.
- **6:00 PM Soup Suppers:** will begin the following Wednesday prior to Lenten services at 6PM,
Feb. 24: Evening Circle serving .
March 3: Men serving.
March 10: Sunday School Teachers/Parents/Students serving,
March 17: Women serving,
March 24: Confirmation Students/Parents serving.
No soup supper during Holy Week prior to Good Friday and Easter.
- **Holy Week:** **April 1 Maundy Thursday** worship 7 pm, **April 2 Good Friday** worship 7 PM
- **Ecumenical Sunrise Service:** **Easter, April 4,** 7 AM at New Heights in Black Earth. More details to follow.
- **LEAD Conference:** March 13 . Council members and other interested parishioners are encouraged to attend and contact Pastor Chad as soon as possible so that registration can be sent in by March 6. Notice will be posted in Sunday bulletins.
- **Adult Study Groups:** Continue Tuesday evenings (The Centered Life) and Thursday mornings (Honoring of Neighbor's Faith).
- **Vacation:** (Taken to date 8). Request: **Feb 16, and Thursday afternoon-Friday, Feb 18-19.**
- **Haiti Medical Mission:** **March 14** Dr. DiGiovani will speak at New Heights in Black Earth. Time and other details to follow. Will probably be an evening presentation. Nate Timm is organizing the event.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes from 1-14-10 reviewed and approved (Bill, Jill)

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jan. minutes reviewed (Peter will check with Patty regarding a difference in the report income figures vs ones given to Pastor Chad by Joan Haugen) and approved (Stan, Scott) . Discussion included ideas for implementing a checking account debit option for giving to insure regular income to meet operating expenses. Information printed in the "Messenger" and on our Web site is being simplified for clarity. (Actual Giving to Date, Actual Expenses to Date, Explanation of any large. non-routine income/expenses such as payment of annual fuel bill or insurance payments.) Sawyer Kennedy is assisting with formatting for the Web site. He will be in contact with Gary Olsen and Linda Watkins.

VISION AND MISSION:

- **Church Secretary:** Linda Watkins has been welcomed back. Many thanks to all who have helped fill her shoes in her absence.
- **Signs:** Terry Dewitt's submitted an updated bid that took out costs of removing the old sign and installing the new one. It is about \$1000 less than the original bid of close to \$2800. Bid is now for 1 large sign and a portable sandwich board sign to be placed at the corner of Hwy 78 and Vermont Church Rd during special events. Volunteers from Vermont will do the large sign installation and wait until construction of outdoor facility does not put the new sign at risk and when preliminary cement-work can be done at the same time that construction cement work is being done.
- **Community Awareness:** Installation of a landmark structure (of undetermined type) to help with finding the Vermont Church Rd was also discussed. We also discussed having a Face Book page for Vermont.
- **Membership Rolls:** Continued work on updating rolls, contacting underactive members and inactive members by Pastor Chad.
- **Pictorial Directory:** Discussed new directory, possibly done in-house and having a web version in addition to a print copy. The E-Directory would be accessible to members only using a password. Having an e-directory would encourage membership use of the Vermont Web Site and be easily updated when we gain new members.
- **Mutual Ministry Committee:** The synod is encouraging every congregation to develop a support team for their pastors. Sarah Yotter from the synod office will come to our next council meeting on **March 18** to provide information about Mutual Ministry Teams and how to set one up here. The committee acts as a support group to the pastor for discussing current issues and bouncing ideas around. Council Officers and 2-3 other members might be included. The group would likely have scheduled meetings 1-2X/year in addition to being convened on an as-needed basis.
- **Wednesday Lenten Services at Vermont Church:** Peter will put a notice in the local paper to invite community participation in soup suppers and Lenten worship services.
- **Confirmation Class:** There will be no Confirmation classes during Lent, but students will be required to attend Wednesday services. They will also host one of the soup suppers.
- **Men's Meatball Dinner:** 11:00 on **Feb 21** after worship to benefit missions at Vermont.
- **Outdoor Facility:**
 - **March 20 at noon.** Annex Addition luncheon to gather volunteers and plan for building of the outdoor facility. Greg and Patty Herrling will be serving chili for the luncheon. About 100 people are being sent an invitation to attend for the various building tasks.
 - **Fundraising Team:** 5-6 people needed to begin fundraising events for the project.
- **Vermont Constitution:** Last revision was done in 1997 and needs to be done again in the coming year.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:45 PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting: Thursday, March 18, 2010 6:30 PM (a change from our usual 2nd Thurs of each month)

Respectfully Submitted by Bonnie Dauck, Vermont Council Secretary