

VERMONT CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

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DATE: 02-12-09 Meeting called to order by council president, Peter Antonie at 6:30 PM. Pastor Chad lead devotions centered on John 16 regarding the making of disciples.

PRESENT: Peter Antonie, Pastor Chad Christensen, Bonnie Dauck, Gary Olsen, Klover Schafer, Jon Urness,
ABSENT: Scott Berger, Jill Brisky, Bill Kennedy, Patty Herrling,

ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS: Lori Werbeckes, liaison from Oakwood village, described the facility and its mission to senior citizens and their families. Vermont is a partner in giving to Oakwood village and elects representatives to it at each annual meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: No minutes from January meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Reports from January reviewed and approved. (Klover, Jon). Discussed Pastor's salary payment dates (with be the 15th and the last business day of the month), secretary's taxes, Souper Lunch donation made for Seminary support through ELCA, Men's Meatball dinner proceeds suggested to go to general fund.

CALENDAR:

- 2/16-17/09: Pastor Chad out of office (Monday is regular day off, Tues is a vacation day)
- 2/18/09: Pastor Chad will meet with Out Reach group (see pastor's report)
- 2/22/09: Funeral for David Dybdahl's aunt, Pauline Taylor
- 2/24/09: Evening Adult Study Group 7:00 PM Devotional Classics by Smith and Foster.
- 2/26/09: Daytime Adult Study Group at 10:30 AM Devotional Classics by Smith and Foster.
- 2/25/09: Lent begins with Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 PM following 6:00-7:00 confirmation class.
- 3/01/09 : Installation of new council at worship service
- 3/04/09: Wednesday Lenten Worship at 7:00PM
- 3/18/09: Wednesday Lenten Worship at 7:00PM
- 3/14/09: LEAD Event at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Sun Prairie. The event is designed for congregational leaders, council members, pastors and any person interested in growing in their faith and their leadership in the church.
- 4/26/09: Spring Tea 2:00 PM

PASTOR'S REPORT: Report submitted and is attached to his report.

Transition: Pastor Chad is making a smooth transition into his ministry here, has met local clergy, begun confirmation classes, home visits, and Meet and Greet Sessions. There was one funeral, that of Ervin Lee, in January.

Confirmation: Next year, confirmation classes will include grades 7 and 8. 6th graders will continue in Sunday School for one more year. The first year of confirmation study (7th graders) will focus on Bible Study and the 2nd year (8th graders) on the catechism. Both groups will include community service.

Devotions: We will be using the book Faithful and Courageous by Mark Hanson as a basis for devotions at the beginning of each council meeting, starting in March.

Adult Study Groups: 2 group sessions to be offered by Pastor Chad studying the book Devotional Classics by Smith and Foster. Books can be privately purchased or bought through Pastor Chad.

VISION AND MISSION:

Election of Officers: All positions were approved on a unanimous voice vote (Peter, Bonnie) after individuals volunteered to continue in their respective positions. Treasurer: Patty Herrling, Secretary: Bonnie Dauck, Vice President: Klover Schafer, President: Peter Antonie agreed to serve for one more year, but would like to mentor another member to take over this role next year.

Update Constitution: Our constitution was last updated in 1995 and needs to be revised to include our new vision and mission statements. Peter suggested we look at a model from the ELCA. The revisions can be presented at the 2010 Annual meeting and approved at the 2011 Annual meeting.

Phone Tree for Inclement Weather: Discussed need to update phone tree to include more people on the call list. Will also post worship cancelations on the Web Site and will possibly submit an announcement of cancelation to local TV channels. We will make an announcement after worship and ask for parishioner input regarding how they would like to be notified.

Letter of Call to Pastor Chad/Mutual Mission and Vision: The letter of call to Pastor Chad was reviewed to recall our mutual commitments and expectations for ministry together. Pastor Chad described his style of ministry to be one of actively involving as many people as possible in all areas of the life of the church. He seeks to help parishioners find many ways to live out their faith in witness, service and proclamation of God's Word. In order to empower others to develop and carry out missions and lives of faith, he will encourage member ownership of mission by leading from within and by fostering active prayers lives and scripture study. Using personal contacts, phone calls, letters and/or home visits he, with other members, will continue to invite the involvement of members and unchurched individuals in our community to join in church life at Vermont Church. We will emphasize teamwork vs. committee work and focus on "What is God helping us accomplish here in what we are doing?" "We are all ministers here".

Stewardship: Send Pastor Chad suggestions for people from the congregation who might be willing to serve on a stewardship team. It would be beneficial to encourage people to move away from giving just when they are at worship and to consider automatic checking account monthly debiting, giving 1 or 2 times each month. This would facilitate a more even cash flow to pay monthly expenses.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:00 PM with the Lords Prayer.

Next Council Meeting: Thursday, March 12, 2009 6:30 PM (2nd Thurs of each month)

Respectfully Submitted by Bonnie Dauck, Vermont Council Secretary