

## Vermont Lutheran Council Meeting April 23, 2009

Present: Peter Antonie, Jill Stone-Brisky, Bill Kennedy, Jon Urness, Gary Olsen, Pastor Chad, Klover Schafer. Absent: Patty Herrling, Bonnie Dauck, Scott Berger.

Peter Antonie, President called the meeting to order.

**Pastor's Devotion:** Pastor Chad led us in a reading and discussion of an article "Does the Church have a Future?" excerpt from "A Missional Field Guide for the Congregation" by Rick Rouse & Craig Van Gelders. We looked at Vermont's strengths and weaknesses.

### **Pastor's Report: (See written Report for further details)**

- **LEAD Workshop Report.** Peter Antonie, Joannie Haugen and Pastor Chad attended the LEAD Workshop in March. They gave a summary of their written report and how we can use at Vermont what they learned.
- **Youth Group Update.** Confirmation Age group went for a lazer tag outing. We will continue to "grow" our own youth program from the Sunday School and Confirmation programs.
- **Sugar Creek.** Four confirmation boys will be going to Sugar Creek this summer. Women of the ELCA and the Congregation will both be providing a \$100 honorarium for a total of \$200 each student. The total cost is about \$300 each. Motion was made by Bill Kennedy and seconded by Gary Olsen to make the congregational funds available to the students from the youth budget. Carried.
- **Summer Worship.** Pastor Chad suggested that summer is a good time to have a weekday worship service. It was decided to have Wednesday evening worship starting with the first Wednesday in June and ending with the last Wednesday in August. Services will be at 7 p.m. and will be shorter and different than the Sunday morning service. People will be encouraged to come if they will be gone during the week-end or to come to both Wednesday and Sunday worship! Jon Urness made the motion. Jill Stone-Brisky seconded. Carried.
- **Council Retreat.** Pastor Chad suggested that we consider a late summer council or mission team retreat. No action taken. Carried forward to next meeting.

**Secretary's Report:** Secretary's Report was distributed. Motion made by Gary Olsen and seconded by Jill Stone-Brisky that we approve the minutes. Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's Report was reviewed and approved.

### **Vision & Mission:**

- **Facilities Committee Meeting Report.** A meeting was held on March 29, 2009 which included representatives from the various church groups concerning

the use of the building. Three items are being implemented: 1. a **Facilities Use Team** made up of 4 lay persons and Pastor Chad to co-ordinate space and to discuss and make procedures as necessary. 2. a **Set Up-Take Down Team** which will report to the Facilities Committee and will be an “on call” group who will help to set up and take down before and after large events at church. 3. a **Master Church Calendar** has been implemented by Linda Watkins, Church Secretary. Anyone wishing to use the church for meetings, for repairs, for events should notify Linda asap. Other needs such as Sunday School space, storage space, etc. were raised including the need for more space in the form of a church addition. Several other ideas came out of the meeting. See “Facilities Use Meeting” minutes for further detail.

- **Stewardship Program.** Pastor Chad attended a Seminar at Wartburg Seminary on stewardship. He is gathering names of persons to be on the committee.
- **Updates on March Items.** Second Phone line is in process. Four copies of new red hymnals are ordered.
- **Updated Directory.** Question of whether now is the time to do another one. Discussion included a non-pictorial updated directory from our software be done now and a followup picture version later. Also, the idea of doing our own. No action taken.
- **Confirmation Sunday.** Pastor Chad suggested we move Confirmation Sunday to the fall since the program got a late start this year. Council agreed.
- **Habitat for Humanity.** A home is being built in Mazomanie with major funding to come from Thrivent. The area Lutheran churches are therefore taking a lead role in the planning and work. There is a May 30 dedication of the home which is in process. The Vermont Choir will participate in that program. Several members are involved in the program and more are encouraged. August 15 and September 12 are Vermont’s Volunteer Days. Contact Donna Blumer if interested.
- **Website.** Gary Olsen was praised for his work on keeping the website up to date. He had questions about what to keep on the site and it was agreed to keep only the more recent items on and store the older pictures elsewhere. Also, adding the ELCA connection, logo on the home page.

**Other Business:** Motion made by Klover Schafer and seconded by Pastor Chad for Liz to get gifts for Sunday School Teachers.

Next Meeting is Thursday, May 14 at 6:30 p.m.

**Motion to Adjourn.**

Respectfully Submitted by Klover Schafer