

VERMONT CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

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DATE: 05-13-10 Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM. Pastor Chad led devotions.

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

ABSENT:

ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS: Joanie Haugen, Jim Ludolf, Greg Herrling

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Joanie reviewed this year's Sunday school program. The rotating multi-station format was well received. Discussion ensued regarding the time for SS next year. With the objectives of increasing student participation in worship, especially for 6th graders in communion, having parent/children attend worship together and so that Pastor Chad can be more involved in the SS, he would like SS and worship at separate times. A separate time would also allow teachers to attend worship services. Joanie and teachers requested that SS precede worship if this was done. 100% of parents who returned a survey about SS time preferred that SS and worship run concurrently. Discussion of pros/cons of separate times/days for SS followed. Joanie noted that we have some new families attending Vermont because they preferred the concurrent times for worship/SS over the separate times that were being done in the church they had previously attended. The point was made that if SS is to be done at a new time/day, it will be important for parents to buy into the idea so that parent/student participation in worship and SS increase as a result of the change. The ultimate objective is to engage and enhance the faith life of both parents and children and to foster parent/child faith conversations that carry over outside of the church setting. No action was taken at this time to change the SS time, but there was discussion of a parent/student/pastoral discussion time at the beginning or end of the SS/worship hour. This might be most feasible on non-communion Sundays. Note was made that a late start time (10:30 or 11:00) for worship has not favored good attendance at Vermont in the past.

BUILDING COMMITTEE: Greg and Jim discussed the new outdoor facility that is on schedule for completion in June. An open house/dedication and picnic is planned for after the worship service of June 27. The final cost for the 4-season building, kitchen entryway improvements and landscaping/cemetery road work will be about \$140,000. Because of generous donations from congregants, there will not be a need to finance any more than the \$44,000 approved by the congregation. Fund raising is going well with \$12,000 of the needed money raised through pledges and gifts. Karsten Haugen is currently looking into estimates for the AV/Smart Board devices needed for education and presentations. Ingerid Kvam is looking at keyboards. We have a donor for all of our tables.

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

- **Parish Statistics:** Home/Nursing Home Visits: 16. Premarital/Wedding Prep: 1.
- **Vacation Taken:** 1.5 days (Taken to date 12).
- **Vacation Request Approved:** 10.5 days: May 22(1), June 11-12 (1.5), Aug 8-Sept 2 (8)
- **World Hunger Fast/Retreat:** 12 youth and 10 adults participated and raised over \$1000 for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.
- **Confirmation May 23:** Having completed the requirements listed in the confirmation syllabus for both the catechism and Bible units, Isabel Brisky, Jenna Endres, Karsten Kvam and Bailey Lynch were recommended for the council's approval to be confirmed. The council so moved and approved the recommendation. (Patty, Bonnie). 7 students remain in the class to be confirmed in October and there are 5 new 7th graders beginning classes in the fall.
- **Calendar:**
 - **May 27** Loose offering for sister synod in India
 - **Month of May Worship Services:** Loose offerings for Good Samaritan Fund.
 - **June 6-7** Synod Assembly
 - **June 27** Dedication of new annex.
 - **Wednesday Evening Worship:** Starts June 2 using David Cherwein's "Liturgy for the Evening". Volunteers to help lead some of the Wednesday services will be needed.
 - **Guest Preachers:** July 4, Miriam Hull; July 11 Rev. Dr. Winson Persaud.
 - **July 2-11 LAMP mission trip to Ontario, Canada.** Pastor Chad, Amber Van Hale, Carey Norslien and possibly Emrey Brisky will join the group of 7 going from Wisconsin. \$500 was approved (Patty, Stan) by the council from undesignated funds to support the mission trip.
- **Sugar Creek:** June 13-18. 5 kids plan to attend.
- **Relay for Life American Cancer Society Walk a Thon:** June 19-20 at Wisconsin Heights Track. All Vermonter s are invited to participate.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes from March (Patty, Ingerid) and April (Patty, Bonnie) were reviewed and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: April report reviewed and approved (Scott, Bonnie). Giving is on track with giving at this time last year. This leaves us with a cumulative short-fall for this year's budget. \$2000 of planned giving to synod/mission will be disbursed this month (the remainder after lutefisk dinner in October).

VISION AND MISSION:

- **Mutual Ministry Team:** Committee members are Pastor Chad, Bonnie Dauck, Dave Dybdahl, Julie Endres, Jim Festge and Eric Haugen, First meeting will be May 30 following worship. Pastor and People, Making Mutual Ministry Work will be used as a reference.
- **Sign Update:** New outdoor sign has been installed.
- **Debit/Credit Card Update:** Card approved (Stan, Ginny) for use by Linda for office supplies, post office bulk mailings. We will have a non-profit mailing permit, costing \$185 initial fee and an annual \$185 fee (\$370 this year) that will give us significant savings over our current mailing rate. Joan Hosley will do our Messenger mailings. Discussion of obtaining a Cosco Visa non-profit credit card. Would have an annual fee. No action taken.
- **Phone Update:** Completion due May 15.
- **Linda's Annual Review /Goal Setting:** Completed in April with Pastor Chad, Patty and Peter. Follow-up on goals in May and June.
- **Updating Vermont Constitution:** Peter, Stan and Virginia will begin work on updating the Vermont constitution.
- **Pictorial Directory:** Marcia Morley/Joan Haugen have volunteered to head the next directory. Suggestion made to just do updates with new members for now since there is so much going on right now and postpone the full update to next year.
- **AV Issues:** One of our portable microphones can no longer be used on its current frequency. Need new transmitter box (\$300). Peter will pick it up from Select Sound. Discussion of restarting our taped worship services for individuals unable to attend worship at Vermont. Also discussed AV needs for outside annex along with update on speakers in-house, including "Tot's Room" in balcony. Need digital recorder (about \$600 with 8 hours recording capability).

Meeting Adjourned: 9:30 PM with the Lord's Prayer. **Next Council Meeting: Thursday, June 10, 2010 6:30 PM**
(2nd Thursday of Each Month)

Respectfully Submitted by Bonnie Dauck, Vermont Council Secretary