

**KENT MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Jennifer Bolton, Chairperson. Virgil Norris led the devotion with scripture from Luke 10:1-12.

Council members present: Melba Bangert, Jennifer Bolton, Ken Gerardy, Shirley Kirchner, Helmut Lacas, Ralph McHenry, Charles Niemann, Virgil Norris, Don Peterson, Tom Reeder and Pastor Beese

Excused: Bob Harger and Diane Ziehl

A motion was made by Melba Bangert and seconded by Don Peterson to accept the minutes of the January 20, 2009 meeting as written. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – A motion was made by Don Peterson and seconded by Ralph McHenry to accept the report as written. Motion carried. Gail Kruse, Treasurer, will be asked to attend the next meeting of the church council to answer any questions and provide further clarification of the monthly summary.

Building Fund Report – Tom Reeder reported an early payment of \$1,600 had been made in January to be applied to the principle. To date, 49% of the total has been repaid with a savings of \$80,000 for the early payments. The maturity date of the note is June 1, 2020. Tom Reeder will continue to check on current interest rates. A motion was made by Shirley Kirchner and seconded by Charles Niemann to accept the report as written. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Beese reminded everyone that Lent begins next week and is a time to prepare for the celebration of the resurrection of Christ. It is a time to examine who we are and what our relationship is with our Savior. In this regard, Pastor encouraged everyone to devote some extra time in Bible reading, especially Luke 10:1-12. The Sunday bulletins have been reduced in size and content, but further "tweaking" continues. The current Bible Study will end next week to allow for a focus on Lent. Pastor Beese announced that he and Nancy have purchased a home to take advantage of the lower interest rates. This action will require a change in how he computes his taxes and requested that a portion of his salary be designated as a "housing allowance" vs. a "housing equity." A motion was made by Helmut Lacas and seconded by Virgil Norris that:

"Pastor Beese's monthly compensation of \$979.50/month plus \$166.67 for furnishing currently defined as an equity allowance and furnishing allowance be changed to a housing allowance. This change will become effective in March 2009 with the first paycheck after Pastor Beese closes on his new home."

Motion carried. Jennifer Bolton will inform Ken Mueller, Property Committee Chairman, of Pastor Beese's move from the parsonage so that the home can be prepared for possible rental.

Pastor Beese reported a check in the amount of \$10,000 had been received from the Carmen and J. D. Bickford Trust. The Bickfords were members of Kent during the 1990's. The Bylaws call for this donation to be placed in the Ministry Fund and a separate account will be set up for this purpose.

The final check has been received from the insurance company as reimbursement for damage to the organ which occurred last June at the time of a lightning strike. A dedication service for the new Allen Organ is scheduled for 2:00 p.m., Sunday, February 22, 2009.

Pastor Beese reported he had been contacted by Pastor Moll to hold a memorial service at Kent Memorial for Ralph Luvin who had recently passed away. Pastor Moll was asked by Mr. Luvin's family if he would do the memorial service at Kent Memorial. WELCA was asked to prepare a lunch for those attending the service. They agreed to the opportunity to be of service to this family.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS – Jennifer distributed an updated list of committee members.

Christian Education – No meeting this month.

Evangelism – Gerry Williams will serve as Chairman of the committee. The committee is looking at ways to improve Evangelism at Kent. The New Member dinner is scheduled for May 21, 2009.

Finance Committee – The \$47,000 CD renewed on January 29, 2009 at Community Bank and was divided into three separate CD's. One will mature in 1 year, another in 2 years and the third in 3 years. The CD's were put in the safety deposit box at the First National Bank in Sunrise Beach.

Long-Range Planning – Don Peterson has prepared information for inclusion in the Kent Newsletter on the Stewart-McFaden Scholarship Fund.

Ministry Fund – Tom Reeder reported the above-mentioned gift from the Bickford Trust will be the first into the Ministry Fund.

Mutual Ministry – A survey of the congregation will be conducted in late spring to determine the thoughts of the congregation on how pastoral time can best be spent in ministering to the needs of Kent.

Property Committee – Volunteers will clean up the Easter Pageant area in March. A mowing schedule has been posted for the 2009 season. Lattice sections have been replaced in the outdoor worship area and power has been supplied to the new area in the back where the choir and keyboard will be located. The outdoor worship area will be cleaned and made ready for the season.

Social Ministry – A fund-raising activity is planned for this summer. A young woman offered a testimonial at second service last Sunday in appreciation for the assistance Kent provided her and her children last year. She reported she came to Kent to return some of the money she had been given, so that others in need could be helped.

Stewardship - An audit was conducted of the general funds and cash on hand.

Worship and Music – Minutes of the February 3, 2009 meeting were available for review. Jim O'Neil has volunteered his talent on the drums to enhance the Sunday morning services. It was suggested that donations could be requested to purchase a basic set of drums to leave at the church, so that it is not necessary for Jim to transport his drum set. The prayer list will be incorporated in the 8:00 a.m. bulletin. Charles Niemann will be compiling an usher schedule. Gene Halvorson will work on revising the acolyte schedule.

Youth - Taters & Talent will be held February 21, 2009. Naz, the magician, will give a short program. A trip to St. Louis by rail from Jefferson City is planned for April 4, 2009 for the youth. They will visit the Magic House in Kirkwood. Bus arrangements have been made with a youth group in the Kansas City area for the adult and two youth attending the National Youth gathering in New Orleans in July.

OLD BUSINESS

Partnership for the Missional Church – A meeting was held last Friday in St. Charles, Missouri, for pastors and spiritual leaders. They were joined by the Steering Teams on Friday evening. The group will discuss "who we are" and "what God has called us to do." The Kent Steering Team is made up of Dan Johnson, Melba Bangert, Bill Ferretti, Virgil Norris, Sheryl Boos and Tom Fee. Listening leaders include Lois Gonseth, Vicki Ferretti, Gloria Peterson and Gerry Williams. The next meeting is scheduled for June 19-20, 2009.

NEW BUSINESS

Minutes of the Congregational Meeting of February 8, 2009 – A correction was made by Tom Reeder in the Building Fund Report on Page 1. The paragraph should read "*Tom Reeder is looking into the possibility of locking into a good interest rate at the time of the scheduled interest rate adjustment on April 1, 2009.*" A motion was made by Ralph McHenry and seconded by Don Peterson to accept the minutes with the change outlined above. Motion carried. The minutes will then be placed on the agenda for approval at the next congregational meeting. A motion was made by Charles Niemann and seconded by Shirley Kirchner "***that a Special Congregational Meeting be scheduled on May 3, 2009 to be held between services to vote on whether or not to have only one service on Sunday mornings in January and February beginning in 2010.***" Motion carried. Written ballots will be used. A notice of the meeting will appear in the April and May newsletters.

Minutes via e-mail – The Council members present with e-mail reported they had received copies of committee minutes and other agenda items via e-mail and were pleased with this method of receiving information.

Central States Synod Assembly, June 2009 – A motion was made by Ralph McHenry and seconded by Charles Niemann that Virgil and Kathy Norris be asked to represent Kent at the assembly in Lindsborg, Kansas in June. Motion carried.

Lenten Offerings – A motion was made by Shirley Kirchner and seconded by Charles Niemann that offerings received on Ash Wednesday and subsequent Wednesday Lenten Services be directed to the Social Ministry Committee. Motion carried.

Building Fund Pledge Drive – The pledge drive will renew on August 27, 2009. The Finance and Stewardship Committees will work together to begin the process. A reasonable goal should be set for the third fund drive.

Correspondence – A letter of thanks was read from the Westside Senior Center for our continued volunteer participation.

Website – Pastor Beese reported on an e-mail he had received from someone who had seen our website and was inquiring about the type of liturgy used at Kent, since they anticipate visiting the Lake area in the future and are looking for a church to attend. Pastor reported that Don Brohm, our webmaster, will not be available for a couple of weeks beginning this Thursday. Pictures for the website should be forwarded to Bill Gronhoff and written material should be given to Pat Dau.

NEXT MEETING - March 17, 2009 with Ken Gerardy leading the devotion.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion was made by Charles Niemann and seconded by Helmut Lacas that the meeting adjourn at 8:55 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer. Motion carried.

Darleen Mueller
Recording Secretary