

**KENT MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 16, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Jennifer Bolton, Chairperson. This was one day earlier than the usual schedule. Pastor Beese led the devotion utilizing Luke 10:1-12.

Council members present: Melba Bangert, Jennifer Bolton, Ken Gerardy, Bob Harger, Helmut Lacas, Charles Niemann, Virgil Norris, Don Peterson, Diane Ziehl and Pastor Beese

Members excused: Shirley Kirchner, Ralph McHenry and Tom Reeder

A motion was made by Diane Ziehl and seconded by Bob Harger to accept the minutes of February 17, 2009 as written. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Gail Kruse will attend the April meeting of the council to answer any questions regarding the reporting process. Jennifer Bolton will determine who is on the Columbarium Committee. A motion was made by Don Peterson and seconded by Charles Niemann to accept the report as written. Motion carried.

Building Fund Report – Pastor Beese reported that Tom Reeder is currently hospitalized. The monthly payment was made on the building fund note. No formal Building Fund Report was available at this time, due to Tom's illness.

Pastor's Report – Pastor explained his Lenten theme of "*Be Open to God.*" Attendance at the Wednesday night services and suppers has been good. The Youth Choir directed by Tracy Garrett is coming along well and is scheduled to sing on March 29. Holy baptisms will be bestowed on one adult and seven children on Sunday, April 19.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education – Lee Dau's Sunday morning Adult Bible Study class has 18 members. Pastor Beese's seven-week Bible Study had 28 participants. Pastor anticipates continuing this Bible Study after Easter. Children's Sunday School classes have had up to 15 in attendance. Westside Ministerial Alliance Vacation Bible School will be July 13-17 at West Lake Christian Academy.

Evangelism - "Invite a Guest" Sunday will be May 31. Various ways to publicize Kent to the community are planned. A New Member Dinner is planned for May 14. Seven couples in the church will be celebrating "significant" wedding anniversaries during 2009. Arrangements will be made by the Evangelism Committee for a celebration with cake between services in the couples' honor if they choose.

Finance Committee – No report.

Long-Range Planning – The Gerschefske Estate has donated \$28,000 toward the stained glass windows for the east side of the sanctuary. Bids with design proposals will be received from three stained glass companies. A new member class will begin after Lent.

Ministry Fund – No report.

Property – Two platforms that will be used by the organist and choir director in the outdoor worship area have been raised. The entire area has been cleaned and prepared for summer worship. Pre-emergent with fertilizer has been applied to the grassy areas around the church and parsonage. The Easter Pageant area has been prepared. A handrail has been installed on the steps leading from the downstairs storage area to the youth room. A need for emergency lighting in the basement area will be addressed by the Property Committee. Pastor Beese will be vacating the parsonage sometime after Easter. Helmut Lacas volunteered to assess the parsonage and coordinate any needed repairs prior to making it available for a new tenant. It was suggested that there be a set of "landlord" type requirements for usage of the parsonage. A motion was made by Melba Bangert and seconded by Helmut Lacas to accept the bid for asphalt sealing of the 43,000 sq. ft. parking lot. Fifty-percent (\$2,157) must be paid at the time the bid is accepted. Motion carried.

Social Ministry - No meeting was held in March but an "assistance report" was available.

Stewardship – Committees involved in the third Building Fund Drive will be meeting to coordinate plans. There was discussion of how best to handle offering envelopes that have not yet been picked up by members. Some of the members have been out of town since the beginning of the year. Other members may choose not to use envelopes. Further discussion will be required to determine how best to reduce the cost of ordering envelopes next year in view of the number of envelopes not being picked up by members.

Worship and Music – The new bulletin format is undergoing some changes. Training of acolytes and ushers was discussed. Sound problems associated with the new organ are being addressed. The Youth Choir is practicing on Thursdays between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. A light snack is served, since the 4-5 enthusiastic children come directly from school. Matching shirts will be the dress of choice rather than formal choir robes. Volunteers are needed as acolytes, as well as for greeting and ushering on Sunday mornings.

Youth – A special trip is planned to St. Louis with the Kent Kids via round-trip by train from Jefferson City to Kirkwood, then a two-block walk to the Magic House (an outstanding, local “hands on” attraction). Cost is \$45/person for the train ride plus the Magic House admission. Twenty-one children and ten adults will be going. Brown bag lunches will be prepared by the Youth Committee and served on the train. The Youth Committee is excited about the increased interest of the youth in Sunday School attendance and participation in the youth choir.

PARTNERSHIP FOR THE MISSIONAL CHURCH – Melba Bangert updated the Council on the progress of this process. A potluck is planned for April 26 with temple talks on Sunday mornings to keep the congregation updated.

OLD BUSINESS

There was discussion of the draft for the Special Congregational Meeting on May 3, 2009 on the subject of the proposal for one worship service during the months of January and February beginning in 2010.

NEW BUSINESS

- First National Bank has asked that a written authorization from the Church Council be given for those on the signature card for the church's Safety Deposit Box.. Jennifer Bolton is handling this request.
- Since Council members are receiving most monthly agenda information via E-mail prior to the meetings, and in order to facilitate the flow of information during the meeting, it was suggested that Council members be better prepared by having read all Committee minutes and Treasurer's Reports prior to each monthly Council Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

A thank you was received from Community for Christ expressing their appreciation for Kent's contributions to their program in 2008.

NEXT MEETING - April 21, 2009 with Ken Gerardy providing the devotion.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion was made by Bob Harger and seconded by Helmut Lacas that the meeting adjourn at 9:00 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer. Motion carried.

Darleen Mueller
Recording Secretary