

**KENT MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Jennifer Bolton, Chairperson. Devotion was led by Diane Ziehl.

Members Present: Jennifer Bolton, Ken Gerardy, Bob Harger, Shirley Kirchner, Charles Niemann, Virgil Norris, Don Peterson, Kathy Spaulding, Chuck Wanamaker, Diane Ziehl and Pastor Beese

Member Excused: Melba Bangert, who was attending the ELCA's National Meeting in Minneapolis

The **minutes of July 21, 2009** were reviewed. The following changes in the minutes will be made. Chuck Wanamaker should be included as a Council member present. Under the *Mutual Ministry Committee* section, the minutes should be changed to reflect the fact that the results of the evaluations received from the congregation on the subject of pastoral ministry emphasis were very similar to those received "...when the last survey was done in 1997." A motion was made by Chuck Wanamaker and seconded by Kathy Spaulding to accept the minutes with the changes outlined above. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – The report was reviewed. Jennifer provided a breakdown on property expenses thus far this year, which includes the cost of property insurance. A motion was made by Kathy Spaulding and seconded by Ken Gerardy to accept the report as written.

Building Fund Report – The report was reviewed. Ken Gerardy reported a check for approximately \$4,000 had been received from WELCA which reflected a portion of the proceeds of the recent rummage sale. A motion was made by Kathy Spaulding and seconded by Bob Harger to accept the report as written.

Pastor's Report – The ELCA church wide assembly is meeting in Minneapolis this week. Pastor asked that we keep the assembly in our prayers. Members can follow the activities of the assembly on line at *ELCA.org*. Pastor provided an update on the stained glass window project. Pastor expressed appreciation for the generosity of the congregation during the recent fund raisers. The Social Ministry Fair was held between services last Sunday. Pastor will begin another Bible Study in September. Evenings seem to work better for the participants. Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 13. An example of the suggested Kent Youth logo design was shared with the Council members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education – Bob Harger reported that Virgil Norris had attended a Leadership Conference in Kansas City with Dorothy Englestad. Rick Warren (*A Purpose Driven Life*) is expected to be a speaker at the 2010 conference. Leaders of the church were encouraged to attend. Brad Brumm, the Superintendent of our Sunday School, will be asked to provide a list of the ages & grades of the children in Sunday School, in order to mail out cards inviting the children to the beginning of Sunday School on September 13. Lee Dau will continue his study of the *Gospel of John* and Dorothy Englestad will begin a study of *The Prodigal God*.

Evangelism - A list will be prepared for new members outlining the committees of the church and their functions, if they should wish to volunteer or be asked to serve on a committee. Members should be encouraged to wear their name tags and to reach out to visitors during coffee fellowship. It was suggested that members place their name tags in a basket following coffee fellowship and a volunteer would be asked to place the name tags back on the board in alphabetical order. Ken Mueller, Property Chair, will be asked to consider designing a larger board for the name tags, which would improve the "on and off process" and may encourage members to wear their name tags more regularly.

Finance – No meeting to report.

Long-Range Planning – No meeting this past month, but Don Peterson continues to follow the stained glass window project.

Ministry Fund – No meeting.

Mutual Ministry – The Committee met in July to review the results of the recent pastoral survey. In the area of music, Pastor discussed how hymns are selected and ways to improve the congregation's familiarity with the hymns. Results of the survey will be included in the September Newsletter. There was discussion of ways to follow new members after they join the church. It was suggested that we become more aware of members who are not attending regularly and ways in which we might encourage attendance. Kathy Spaulding volunteered to bring this subject to the Evangelism Committee for study.

Property – Ken Mueller provided a summary of activities during the past month including treatment of an ant infestation of trees near the outdoor worship area. Volunteers continue to keep the grass mowed and flower beds weeded and watered in the front of church and in the area of the Columbarium. Service was required for the air conditioner in the church office. Another work day will be scheduled for the Easter Pageant area before leaves begin to fall. The Committee is working on a request to prepare a platform and move the keyboard back to the front of the outdoor worship area.

Social Ministry – The Committee responded to nine recent calls for assistance. The Hoedown on August 15 was a success, adding approximately \$6,800 to the Social Ministry fund.

Stewardship – Virgil Norris reported on his trip to Kansas City to attend the Leadership Conference.

Worship and Music – Charles Niemann reported difficulty in recruiting ushers. A new list has been prepared. Acolyte training is planned for September.

Youth – The youth sold hot dogs and drinks during the WELCA rummage sale. Gail Kruse used her grill to cook hot dogs for the Hoedown. Materials were available for review for the New mulch will be put down under the playground equipment after the weeds are sprayed. Gail reported on the trip to New Orleans and the positive experience of working side-by-side with ELCA church leaders on service projects related to damage remaining from Hurricane Katrina.

PMC – Pastor reported the committee will be meeting toward the end of the month. An informative meeting will be held for the congregation on September 20, 2009. The cluster group will be meeting in St. Louis October 16-17. Attendees will be staying in ELCA member homes to reduce the cost.

OLD BUSINESS - The Building Fund Pledge Drive #3 was considered a great success.

NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made by Charles Niemann and seconded by Shirley Kirchner to approve Jim Kennedy to fill the unexpired term (12/31/11) of Helmut Lacas on the Church Council. Motion carried. Jim will serve on the Property Committee.
- The Nominating Committee met before the council meeting to offer replacements to the Church Council beginning January 1, 2010. Kathy Spaulding and Chuck Wanamaker who are filling the unexpired terms of Ralph "Mac" McHenry and Tom Reeder have agreed to remain on the Council and serve an additional three-year term. Shirley Kirchner & Charles Niemann will be going off of the council at end of this year.
- Jan Kennedy will be placing budget sheets in committee chairpersons' mailboxes for completion in preparation for the 2010 budget process. The sheets need to be completed by the end of September so the council can approve the budget in October in anticipation of the Annual Meeting Part I on November 8, 2009.
- Committee chairpersons were reminded of the need to prepare written reports for the Annual Meeting Part II on February 14, 2010..
- Pastor will ask Pat Dau to prepare an update of the history and statistics of the church for the "Kent History" section on the website.
- In order to encourage better participation by the congregation in singing hymns, it was suggested that we consider using a "music leader" when the choir is not present during worship.
- Bob Harger mentioned that people have told them that they like having the choir and keyboard up front at the outdoor worship area instead in the back. It would be easier to hear them if they were at the front of the outdoor worship area.

NEXT MEETING – September 15, 2009 with Shirley Kirchner leading the devotion.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion was made by Kathy Spaulding and seconded by Don Peterson that the meeting adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Motion carried. Hands were held and The Lord's Prayer was prayed.

Darleen Mueller
Recording Secretary