

Mount Olive Lutheran Church
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 18, 2009 7pm

Call To Order: The meeting was called to order by Millie Elrod. Opening Prayer was given by Pastor Jim. Kelly Hays-Thorson offered the devotions. Those present were: Millie Elrod, Alice Hayes, Steve Philo, Amy Conway, Pastor Jim, Mike Flesher, Joanne Hamilton, Kelly Hays-Thorson, Naomi Gilbertson, Kathy Ronningen, and Paul Wooster. Absent were Mike Cummings and Don Jimison. Five members of the congregation were also present.

Additions to the Agenda: Item 2 of new Business to be changed to Merit Raise.

Adoption of Agenda: Steve Philo made the motion to adopt the agenda. Kathy Ronningen seconded the motion. Passed.

Consent Agenda: Alice Requested correction of the last months' minutes with the addition to add Pat Rodriguez merit increase was to be retroactive to June 1st. Alice Hayes made a motion to adopt the consent agenda with corrections and it was seconded by Naomi Gilbertson and passed.

Unfinished Business:

1. 2009 Audit Action Plan. Steve Philo reviewed each item allowing council to ask questions. After discussion motion was made by Alice Hayes to adopt the 2009 Audit Action Plan and Steve Philo seconded the motion. Passed.

New Business:

1. Church Wide Assembly discussion was delayed until review of Pastor's report.
2. Cost of Living Increase/ Merit Raise was discussed to make the addition to previous minutes to reflect a retroactive increase to June 1st.
3. Fiscal Control. Steve Philo presented the revised Fiscal Control Policy based on the audit results changes were made to stated that 'payments shall be made from original invoices only' to prevent duplicate payments. Joanne Hamilton made a motion to adopt the revised policy. Millie Elrod seconded the motion. Passed.
4. Computer and Internet Use. A new Policy was drafted to provide clear guidelines for computer and internet usage. The policy was reviewed by council. Naomi Gilbertson motioned to adopt the new policy. Kelly Hays-Thorson seconded the motion. Passed.

Discussion Items:

1. Fall Retreat-Possible dates Oct 10, 17 or 24. The retreat dates were discussed and a consensus for Oct. 24th was decided. The council will have a retreat on Saturday from 8AM -3PM. Pastor is looking for another church facility to use to allow for a prayer service during the retreat.
2. Request for September for usage of the Parish Center (USA Dance) see attached. USA Dance has requested 7 dates to hold sessions. Presently our agreement is \$35/month for weekly meetings. Recommendation is to charge and additional \$35 since they have requested additional sessions based on our present agreement. Millie will communicate this to Dance USA.
3. Request for 'loose change' in Sunday services be given to the Children's Hour. There was discussion to request the loose change be given to the children's hour for supplies and outreach. Motion to table the discussion until the budget can be checked was made by Steve Philo. Seconded by Naomi Gilbertson. Passed.
4. Correspondence.
 - a. The Gideons International requested a list of business men from our congregation to attend a dinner meeting on 9/14/09. No interest from council was voiced in this matter the invitation is attached to the minutes.
 - b. Interagency Annual Domestic Violence Luncheon on Oct 6th invitation will be added to our September agenda for discussion.

- c. The Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission sent a letter of gratitude for our 'amazing' gifts of time, talent and money our congregation, WELCA and our quilters provided over the past seven years. They also request our continued support.
- d. Correspondence from Sue Houser, Grand Canyon Synod was discussed regarding the upcoming ELCA Churchwide Assembly and voting. She will email pastor the results of the voting and he will disseminate the results to the council.
- e. Pastor received a letter for Dorothy Smith regarding her niche in the columbarium. Pastor will submit the letter to the Columbarium Committee.

Pastors Price's Report:

Pastor is planning a vacation day on 8/25/09. He is planning a continuing education program in North Carolina 9/15-9/17 this is an Albin Institute Seminar on Church Growth. He and Cathy will be gone 9/13-9/18/09. Pastor discussed concerns based on item 6 (see attached handout: Recommendations: Ministry Policy) This is based on changing the current ministry policies by allowing for the ordination of practicing homosexual clergy and the blessing of same-sex unions. It was decided the council would participate in forums after each service on Sat Evening and Sunday Morning to inform the congregation of the decision made at the Assembly and allow them to voice their concerns. We need to continue our commitment to ELCA and our church and not withhold our pledges/offerings. We are here to stand together as a congregation to perform the Lords works.

Steve Philo motioned to accept the written youth director's report. Paul Wooster seconded the motion. Passed.

Questions from the floor:

Frank Hamilton from the property board will meet with Betty Christenberry and the Sunday School Staff to move the Library.

Naomi motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:20PM and Alice Hayes seconded the motion.

Everyone prayed The Lord's Prayer at 8:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Hayes, Secretary