

# St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Voters' Meeting

### January 14, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by President Ken Arndt. Pastor Bitter opened with a prayer. (Copies of all reports are available from the church council secretary.) 25 voters present.

#### Secretary's Report

M/S/P to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept them as written.

#### Membership

- M/S/P to accept the transfer of Lola Milner from Grace, Waupun.
- M/S/P to accept Maggie Collien and Laura Roehl into membership by adult confirmation.
- M/S/P to grant the release of Glen Pahnke as he requested.
- M/S/P to receive Stephanie Geisthardt from Trinity, Dundee, into membership.
- M/S/P to accept Bruce Zuelke as a voting member.

#### Pastor's Report

While the number of communicant members started and ended at 430, the number of souls dropped from 513 to 497. There was also a decline in the average Sunday attendance.

#### Christian Growth Committee

No report. Giving plans were discussed during the budget discussion.

#### Outreach Committee

Art Pahnke reported that the committee's annual activities included the Easter breakfast, the church picnic, the Mission Festival, and a special Christmas mailing to non-members. The WELS monthly video-tapes will continue for another year. He estimates that it would cost about \$1000 to replace our two televisions with a projector and screen.

#### Lutheran School Committee

Ed Marley presented their budget report. It was noted that second semester tuition for pre-school is now due. The next P.A.C.K. meeting is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 5.

#### Shepherding Committee

John Roehl is in the process of contacting inactive members.

#### Properties Committee

Dave Holz reported that he will be replacing burned out lights in the church. Bob Fretschel has recaulked the parsonage bathtub. The church refrigerator has been repaired.

#### WLA Representatives

Tom Laich reported that Dave Lauber has retired after many years of dedicated service. He also pointed out that tuition fees are rising due to a decrease in enrollment.

#### Finance Committee

Tim Panzer's report showed that while the General Fund receipts were more than for 2005 we still ended the year with a \$6846.69 deficit.

A revised St. Luke's Building Rental Application was passed out. The council would appreciate feedback from the congregation.

M/S/P to approve the financial secretary's report.

#### Treasurer's Report

Dave Tetzlaff explained his report. The General Fund began the year with \$9969.99. There were deposits of \$303,533.94 and expenditures of \$320,350.62. This left a deficit of \$6846.69.

The Parish Improvement Fund has \$15,000 in three certificates of deposit.

The \$3502.50 in the Communion Fund was disbursed to Wisconsin Institutional Ministries, Wisconsin Lutheran Child & Family Services and the WELS Committee on Relief.

\$3000 of the Door Collections fund was actually a non-member tuition payment that had to be refunded when the family did not enroll.

The St. Luke's mortgage balance is \$82,695.88.

Property insurance costs were over budget because of changes in our plan and its rates.

M/S/P to accept the treasurer's report.

### Auditing Committee

M/S/P to appoint Bruce Rhode to audit the church's financial records.

### Baehler Trust Fund

Dave Kenyon explained his written report. The Trust has \$15,691 in two certificates of deposit. The checkbook balance is \$549.37.

We have about 7 more years until the Trust expires.

M/S/P to accept this report and to appoint David Kenyon (Ken Arndt – alternate) to administer the fund for 2007.

### Unfinished Business

None

### Church Council Recommendations

- M/S/P to ratify the appointments of the following men to their committee positions: Reagan Arndt, David Tetzlaff, Dennis Loduha, Richard Reehl, Paul Rhode, Dale Hinze, Bill O'Laire, Gerald Huth, Robert Fretschel, and Dean Geisthardt.
- M/S/P to disperse the 2007 Communion Fund offerings to WLIM (\$4/com.), WLCFS (\$4/com.), and the balance to the Committee on Relief.
- M/S/P to transfer \$6846.69 from the Parish Improvement Fund to the General Fund to start 2007 without a deficit.
- The recommendation was to transfer \$10,000 from the Parish Improvement Fund to the General Fund to help offset the difference between our anticipated offerings for 2007 and the proposed budget. M/S/P to not transfer the money at this time, but to wait until it was needed.
- The original proposed budget for 2007 was \$337,526. After reviewing the Giving Plans, it was reduced to \$317,336. This included no increase for WELS, WLA, and called worker salaries. All committees were reduced and the three-year-old kindergarten would not be continued next school year. The only increase was for insurances. After much discussion a motion was made and seconded to restore the salaries (with S.S.) increase and the three-year-old kindergarten. These items were a \$6790 increase. Motion passed. M/S/P to approve the amended budget of \$324,126.

- M/S/P to use \$3000 from the Parish Improvement Fund to pay the church's share of the Computer Improvement Plan. The remaining costs are being covered by the school checkbook, P.A.C.K., and the School Fund. Most of the costs are to pay for software licenses which can not be avoided.

### New Business

- Ken Arndt stated that August 24, 2007, is the tenth anniversary of our church building. M/S/P to authorize Ken Arndt to set up a committee to plan and carry out an appropriate celebration.
- Building Rental Agreement – This item was referred back to the church council.

After a M/S/P to adjourn, the meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

John Sankey  
Church Secretary