



St. Luke's Lutheran Church & School

Oakfield, WI

Voter's Meeting Minutes

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January 8, 2012

President John Sankey called the meeting to order at 11:50 a.m. Pastor Goelzer opened with prayer and devotion. 25 voting members were present.

Secretary's Report

MSP: To dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept them as written.

Pastor's Report

Pastor presented a membership activity summary. The total number of souls has grown from 455 at the beginning of the year to 477. 71.43% of our members have attended service in the last three months, compared to almost 85% in 2010. Members taking communion in the last three months is up 2% from 2009.

MSP: to accept Lindsey Koser as a communicant member by affirmation of faith (previously done in the Oct. 2011 Voter's meeting).

Membership – Ratification of Council Actions

MSP: to ratify the appointment of Kevin Gierach to finish the last 2 years of Barry Zuelke's term.

Outgoing council men: Rick Reehl, Barry Zuelke, Tim Panzer, & Joe Birschbach with a note of thanks for their service.

New council men: Kevin Gierach, John Roehl, Justin Rhode, & John Sankey.

Christian Growth Committee: Kevin Gierach gave a brief summary of what his committee is responsible for under Section 2 of the Constitutional Bylaws.

Outreach Committee & WELS United: Gary Seyfert, Jerry Huth, & Jeremiah Prochnow committee members. A thank you was issued to Art Pahnke for his many years of service.

The purpose of the Outreach Committee is to reach out to the unchurched in the community, as well as work with the sister WELS congregations in the area: Spring Blast, Easter Breakfast, Church picnic, Mission Festival meal, Thanksgiving Delivered, Christmas/New Year's Service postcards.

Jerry Huth reported for WELS United, set up to be a joint ministries effort intended to keep cost down to individual churches while allowing a group of churches to help with bigger projects. It has been in existence for about a year and had organized/participated in the following in 2011: a Koiné concert, a booth at Fond du Lac's Fond du Fest promoting WELS congregations, and put out Christmas postcard mailings/banners for the churches that were part of WELS United. Advertising was also taken care of though this group.

Upcoming events include a 13-week course for financial planning by Dave Ramsey, sponsored by Good Shepherd and held at WLA (more information can be found on Good Shepherd's website), a Marriage Retreat the weekend of Feb. 10th, a 6-week Parenting class to begin in mid-February (more information to follow), and also help in promoting "Men Of His Word" being held in Oshkosh, WI on February 11th.

Lutheran School Committee: Brian Miller reported that the Lutheran School Committee meets monthly with Dennis Loduha serving as the Committee Chairman, Dan Flood, Treasurer, and Ben Grunewald, Secretary. The committee oversees the church school activities. The subcommittees are P.A.C.K., the School Outreach Committee, and the WLA Representative. A School Outreach Committee meeting is scheduled Jan. 11, 2011 and a school newsletter is published & available for pick up monthly.

Shepherding Committee: John Roehl reported that he will be scheduling a Deacon/Usher's meeting to go over the church audio system and lighting. He noted that the committee's responsibilities include the care of those Christian's lost or gone astray.

Properties Committee: Paul Rhode gave a brief summary of the committee's responsibilities which included the maintenance of the church/school properties, and the parsonage as well as being head of the church cleaning.

WLA Representative:

MSP: to appoint John Panzer to a 2-year term as WLA Representative.

Finance Committee: Tim Panzer reported the following figures as of December 31, 2011 total general fund income as \$265,195.40; total fund income was \$315,316.77. It was reported that we ended the year -\$3,568.23 behind budget.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Tetzlaff reported total general fund deposits for the year are \$315,316.77 with expenditures of \$318,364.97. General Fund balance for the year is a negative balance of -\$3,048.20. The checkbook balance is \$8,295.27.

The mortgage balance with the Baehler Trust is \$26,643.27*. Our operating loan balance is \$55,605.65; interest only paid in the months of October - December.

General Fund Deficit - reflects the overall deficit of -\$77,442.82. (**New line item added so that, when principal is paid off of the operating loans, they have a way to balance the books.)

Outstanding Membership Loan balance is \$5,000.00.

MSP: To approve both financial reports.

*Vernon Baehler Trust Fund – Dave Kenyon presented the 2011 Annual Report for this fund and he reported that the St. Luke's mortgage note as of 12/31/11 was \$26,643.27 and that in 2 years the mortgage note will be paid. He also reported that St. Luke's earns approximately \$741.50 in interest earnings per year.

Unfinished Business No Report

New Business

A Motion was made to Adopt Plan B 2012 budget with 3% raises for WELS and WLA. This motion was defeated.

MSP: to adopt Plan B for the 2012 budget, and that council work on a plan to help us reduce the overall General Fund deficient of -\$77,442.82. Explaining to the congregation its causes, effects on the 2012 Budget, and how we will work together, with the Lord's Help, to reduce it. If there is any surplus in 2012 General Fund, that the January 2013 Voter's Meeting will decide how to split the surplus between the operating debt, WLA and WELS.

MSP: to adopt the Child and Youth Abuse Prevention Program.

MSP: to approve the \$10,000.00 addition to our operating loan at the Bank of Oakfield to pay back a member loan.

MSP: Distribution of the communion funds for 2012. (2011: \$4/communicant to WLIM+WLCFS and the balance to WELS Christian Aid and Relief.)

MSP: to have the January council meeting approve two men to audit the 2011 financial records.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

MSP: to adjourn at 1:32 p.m. 01/08/12.

Respectfully submitted,

Dean Geisthardt
Church Secretary

Copies of all reports are available from the church council secretary and from St. Luke's report website. reports.stlukesoakfield.com