

**Hosanna Lutheran Church**  
Council of Ministries Minutes (preliminary)  
November 5, 2008

**Present**

Linda Marsh, Bob Hille, Tim Boettcher, Terry Utecht, Anita Baresel, Teresa Kennedy, Pastor Greg, Doug Bradshaw, Marge Drew

**Opening Prayer**

Pastor Greg offered the opening prayer.

**President's Report**

President's Report items will be addressed in other agenda items.

**Previous Minutes**

Motion to accept the September 10, 2008 Minutes as presented was made by Teresa Kennedy. Second, Linda Marsh. Motion approved.

**Pastor's Report**

November is Stewardship Month. The theme this year is Stories to Tell and Gifts to Share. Each Sunday during the month a different message will be presented: Home and Family; Share our Faith; Important roles we have in the Kingdom of God; Thank God for all His gifts and dedicate our pledges to the Lord. The Stewardship letter will be mailed to members this week.

Voters' Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 9, 9:15am.

Thanksgiving Service will be held Wednesday evening, November 26, at 7:00pm. There will be no service on Thanksgiving Day.

Christmas Services: Saturday, December 13, 6:00 pm, Sunday School Christmas Program; Sunday, December 14, 8:00am and 10:30pm, Christmas Choir Cantata, and 11:30am Christmas Potluck. Christmas Eve Services: Wednesday, December 24, 5pm and 7pm, Candlelight Service of Carols; and 11pm, Candlelight Service of Carols and Communion. Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25, 10am, Worship Service.

**PMC Report**

Bob Hille reported the need to fill the Head Elder position. Bob will continue to contact possible candidates.

**Committee Reports**

**Early Learning Center** Diane Obialero is attending a Board Meeting and may give her report later.

**Baseball Field** Stephen Winkler was unable to meet with appropriate individuals regarding the baseball field status. A report will be presented at a later date.

**Other reports**

**Facilities Report** Doug Bradshaw submitted a written Facilities Report. Doug has repaired faulty outdoor lighting, indoor lights have been repaired. Fire exit lights, as identified by West Metro Fire Department, will have back up batteries replaced. The sprinkler systems will be drained and turned off. Outside Christmas decorations will be displayed soon.

**Old Business**

Capital Campaign Committee is on hold because of our present financial concerns. Tim Boettcher did receive a bid to install an elevator in the amount of \$185,000.00, plus or minus 10%.

**New Business**

**November Voters' Meeting** The agenda and other materials for the Voter's Meeting are available at the Information Desk. Terry Utecht has agreed to serve as Treasurer. The positions of Treasurer Elect and President Elect need to be filled. Tim Boettcher will try to have candidates for these positions in place for the Voters' meeting Sunday.

**Budget Forum Summary** The Budget Forum Summary is available at the Information Desk.

**Mortgage Refinance** Council agreed that the Agenda for the Voters' Meeting needs to be changed. The Mortgage Refinance presentation needs to be made before the 2009 Budget Proposal. The reason for the change is that the 2009 Budget Proposal is based upon our mortgage being refinanced. Council emphasized the need for the congregation to be aware that increased giving is critically important. All monies borrowed from the Reserve Account need to be paid back.

If the mortgage refinancing is approved we will no longer participate in the mortgage refund program. Instead, we will receive ½% lower interest rate.

Council discussed the need recommended by Guy Larson to change the title of the Reserve Account Bellevue Fund to a Capital Reserve Account. This account would be used to pay bills that are not covered by contributions or other emergencies. The proposed fund would be required to maintain a balance at all times, for example \$30,000.00. Any amount over \$30,000.00 would be applied only to the mortgage principle, thus reducing the number of years remaining on our mortgage.

**Security System** Anita Baresel contacted some companies regarding the proposed Security System for Hosanna. Written cost estimates for the security system were reviewed. Pastor Greg said he favors a wireless inter com system. Jane needs to visibly identify callers prior to opening the front door. Doug Bradshaw agreed to check out other systems.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

During the month of October, we broke even. Remember, we need to pay back monies borrowed from various accounts the amount of \$31,000.00. The insurance payment of \$4,000.00 is due in November. Income is down significantly. The December Christmas services usually help us end the year on a more positive note.

#### **Open Concerns**

A question was raised after Budget Forum regarding Pastors Discretionary Fund. The funds in this account are received from individuals in gratitude for services Pastor Greg has provided, such as, weddings, baptisms, funerals, etc. Pastor Greg uses these funds for various needs within the congregation where other funds are not available or inappropriate for the specific need.

Don Loptien called Tim Boettcher about a concern expressed at the Witness and Outreach committee meeting regarding the fact that it is impossible to access the Sheperds Staff data base. The data base has been down for a few weeks and therefore, volunteers are falling further behind in their entry tasks. Terry Utecht works daily with computer and networking problems and graciously agreed to help resolve our data base access problem.

#### **Prayer Concerns**

Pastor Greg did go to Porter Hospital to visit Bob Becker; however, Bob was out of his room undergoing medical tests.

#### **Calendar**

The next Council Meeting will be Wednesday, January 14, 2009, 7:30pm

#### **Closing Prayer**

Pastor Greg offered the Closing Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Drew

Council of Ministries Secretary