

CROSS OF CHRIST CHURCH COUNCIL
Minutes of December 16, 2009 meeting

Attendance:

Officers	P	A	Pastors	P	A	Cabinets	P	A	Cabinets	P	A
Krin Berg (P) / <i>Personnel Cab.</i>	x		Lane Zaffke	x		Sheri Johnson (<i>Finance</i>)	x		Ann Abraham (<i>Personnel</i>)	x	
Garry Edwards (VP) / <i>Worship Cab.</i>	x		Louise Stromberg	x		Darlene Paulson (<i>Evangelism</i>)		x	Lisa Skifton (<i>Stewardship</i>)	x	
Lynn Meyer (S) / <i>Evangelism Cab.</i>	x					Justin Zmyewski (<i>C of C Grounds</i>)	x		Jeanne Tippery (<i>Education</i>)	x	
						Mickey Meyer (<i>Finance</i>)		x	Wayne Olson (<i>St Church Bldg</i>)	x	
Karen Todd (<i>Financial Sec</i>)	x					Grant Olson (<i>C of C Building</i>)		x	Rae Evenson (<i>W/ELCA</i>)		x
Patrick Forsyth (<i>Fin Admin</i>)	x					Denise Thompson (<i>Youth & Fam</i>)		x	Barb Muller (<i>W/ELCA</i>)	x	

President Krin Berg called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm in the Fellowship Hall of Cross of Christ. Pastor Lane led us in devotions.

Review of Agenda: Pastor Lane added *Endowment Distribution* under New Business. The agenda as amended was unanimously approved upon motion by Lynn Meyer, seconded by Garry Edwards.

REPORTS:

Pastor Lane's Report - November: 1 Hospital visit, 3 home visits, five office visits, 3 Financial Peace classes, Root River Pastor's meeting, 1 Text Study, 2 Baptisms, 1 Funeral help (Cynthia Dybing), 1 day at habitat house, 1 Evangelism Meeting, 1 Executive Meeting, met for bookmark for 50th Anniversary, two Lutheran Campus Ministry meetings, Christmas WELCA Party, VV Nursing Home Communion, ELCA Town Hall Meeting, 1 Adult Forum, Confirmation, Syrup Shack work, 2 Text Studies, 1 Mentoring meeting, Christmas Decorating, 1 Staff Support Meeting
Community – Ticket taking at 1 Basketball game

No 50th Anniversary meeting this month

Pastor Louise Stromberg November 2009:

Visits: Hospital – 0 Home – 10 Phone – 2 Office Visits: 3

Funeral & Visitation: Dennis Van Gundy

Events & Activities: VVHC Communion VVHC Prayer Group – 2 sessions

VVHC Coffee VV HC Bible Study

Open House for Burdette & Janice Unnasch WELCA Holiday Bazaar

C of C: Education Cabinet Mtg. Evangelism Cabinet – 2 Mtgs. Stewardship Cabinet Mtg.

Council Mtg. Mtg. with WELCA Officers Contemporary Rehearsal

Circle Briefing CYF Potluck & Decorating

Synod: Fall Conference

Vacation Days: 8 Holiday: 1 Days Off: 4 Sick Day: 0 Personal Days: 0

President's Report: An Executive Board meeting was held to develop our church-wide survey. This survey will be discussed later in this meeting.

Secretary's Report (minutes) of the November 18, 2009 meeting were unanimously ratified upon motion by Garry Edwards, seconded by Lane Zaffke.

Financial Administrator's Report: Patrick Forsyth's report indicated a \$619 net ordinary income for November but a YTD loss of nearly \$25,000. General savings is now gone as a result of having to spend more than income throughout 2009. After reviewing the Profit & Loss for Nov. 09, the P&L for Jan-Nov, 2009, the Statement of Expenses and the Balance Sheet, the Financial Administrator's report was unanimously accepted as submitted upon motion by Ann Abraham, seconded by Lisa Skifton. Patrick expressed a need to budget income for next year and that this should be a 10 percent income increase for 2010 over 2009 in order to meet expenses.

Financial Secretary's Report: Karen Todd presented the Financial Secretary's report reflecting \$20,128 in offerings and other income for the 5 Sundays in November. The Financial Secretary's report was unanimously accepted as presented upon motion by Lane Zaffke, seconded by Sheri Johnson.

CABINET REPORTS:

Education Cabinet: No report.

Evangelism Cabinet Report - November: Pastor Lane, Pastor Louise and Lynn Meyer met Nov. 17th to complete our task of reviewing the church secretary's existing inactive membership roster. On Nov. 21st Lynn met with W/ELCA Treasurer Dorothy Bergsgaard and was able to identify 14 members who had made a donation of record to W/ELCA which qualifies as a donation of record to Cross of Christ and therefore the donor as an active member of our church. Efforts continue toward making appropriate contacts with various members regarding their membership status.

Selected cabinets of our church council have received segments of materials dealing largely with their area of responsibility. Cabinet heads have been asked to provide input for the development of a church-wide membership survey for purposes of seeking our members' feedback on how we are currently meeting their spiritual needs as well as to develop future priority goals and objectives.

Finance Cabinet: The Finance Committee had met recently to develop a proposed 2010 budget which will be discussed later in this meeting. Sheri Johnson asked if the C of C Endowment Fund Investment Policy as approved by the Council on November 18, 2009 needs to be acted upon at the upcoming Annual Meeting of Members on January 24, 2010. It was agreed by the Council that the investment policy would be brought to the Members.

Personnel Cabinet: Ann Abraham reported the staff support committee is meeting every six weeks. They are currently dealing with how Pastor Louise's health issues affect our pastors' schedules. She has a doctor's appointment tomorrow and will offer additional information to the committee thereafter.

Property Cabinet: Wayne Olson indicated the Stone Church is all closed up for the season and that they have reset the flood lights to be on for fewer hours each day. Discussion followed about the damaged exterior doors on the Cross of Christ building which no longer close on their own. It was agreed our Members need to be aware of this so a note should either be written in the weekly bulletin or the Parish Visitor or both.

Stewardship & Mission: Lisa Skifton has summarized the recently received Time & Talent Commitment sheets from Members and will update this document as additional sheets are submitted.

Worship & Music: Garry Edwards is soliciting bids for new audio/visual equipment.

Youth and Family. Cross of Christ now has a group on Facebook to help our youth stay connected with our church and related activities. Please share this group name with anyone you're connected with on email that may be interested in this youth group. Group name: Cross of Christ Lutheran Church Youth - Or copy and paste this into your browser (I'm not sure if this will work if you have never been on facebook but give it a try and let me know) <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/pages/Cross-of-Christ-Lutheran-Church-Youth/216155500165?ref=ts> Let's get the word out to our youth. I welcome any feedback, suggestions, etc. I'm pretty new to creating groups on facebook so it will be a learning process as we go.

WELCA Vice President Barb Muller reported WELCA's Executive Board had allocated \$3,300 for C of C's use in times of need. Requests for use of these funds will be brought to the WELCA Executive Board for consideration. 33 people attended the Dec. 4th general WELCA meeting at which time the officers for 2010 were installed. There's a meeting of the Executive Board on January 5th to plan for 2010. January 29th is the next WELCA general meeting.

50th Anniversary Committee: No meeting this month.

OLD BUSINESS:

Budget: Patrick Forsyth referred to the proposed budget for 2010, indicating the projections are fairly flat but even then it results in a deficit budget. Patrick again suggested we begin budgeting an income target in 2010. Discussion was held regarding communications with our church Members regarding deficits; should this be done and if so how and when.

Some discussion was held regarding current practices in paying for Stone Church expenses out of the general fund. It was felt the Stone Church Committee should review this matter before any changes are made to the way in which Stone Church expenses are paid. Pastor Lane will follow up on this matter.

Due to a failure of a motion to approve the proposed budget, it was not acted upon at this meeting. Sheri Johnson made a motion to table action on the proposed 2010 C of C budget until this Council meets again. Justin Zmyewski seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Garry Edwards made a motion that this Council hold a special meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 in order to review and act upon an updated proposed 2010 budget in time for such budget to be available for review and approval at the January 24, 2010 Annual Meeting. Motion was seconded by Lisa Skifton and passed.

Cabinets are to review and resubmit their budgets to Sheri Johnson and Patrick Forsyth by no later than Wednesday, January 6, 2010.

Church-Wide Survey: Krin Berg, Pastor Lane, Pastor Louise and Lynn Meyer have developed a proposed survey to be distributed to C of C Members. They used materials from consultant Bunny Novak taken largely from a U.S. Congregational Life Survey. A drafted C of C survey was distributed to Council members and after making a few amendments to this document a motion was made by Ann Abraham to move ahead with this amended survey by providing a copy to consultant Bunny Novak for further evaluation and processing. The motion was seconded by Garry Edwards and passed unanimously. Lynn will update the draft document and communicate it to Ms. Novak.

NEW BUSINESS:

Endowment Distribution: Pastor Lane talked about how, in accordance with the approved endowment fund investment policy, distributions are made at the sole discretion of the Council and that annually the fund may distribute a maximum of 4 percent of the portfolio's fair market value as of December 31st. Further, the policy guidelines for fund distribution dictate the moneys are to be divided equally with 25% each to Building, Youth & Family and Education, Synod Ministries and World Ministries. Because no moneys have yet been distributed from the endowment fund during 2009, Pastor Lane made a motion that 4 percent of the market value of the endowment fund as of December 31, 2008 be allocated in equal amounts to Cross of Christ Property Cabinet (building), Good Earth Village (Youth & Family), Lutheran Campus Ministry (Synod Ministries) and The Lutheran Agape Social Center in Tanzania (World Ministries). The motion was seconded by Garry Edwards and unanimously approved.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Council members are encouraged to rework their cabinet budgets and submit them to Patrick and Sheri by January 6th.

December 20th is the Sunday School Christmas program.

CALENDAR:

Dec 19	SS Christmas Program Practice	9:30 am	Jan 3	Service of Holy Communion; no SS
Dec 20	Communion Serv/SS Christmas Program		Jan 6	Executive Board 7:30 pm
Dec 24	5 pm Christmas Eve Service		Jan 10	Worship Service
	10 pm Candlelight Service		Jan 13	Church Council 7:30 pm
Dec 25	9:30 Lessons & Carols Service		Jan 16	5 pm Worship Service
Dec 27	Worship Service w/baptism; no SS		Jan 17	Service of Holy Communion
Jan 1	Office Closed			HHS Band Lasagna Fundraiser Dinner
Jan 2	5 pm Service of Holy Communion		Jan 24	Worship Service followed by Annual Meeting of Members

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm upon motion by Garry Edwards, duly seconded by Lisa Skifton.

President Krin Berg led us in the benediction.

Submitted respectfully,

Lynn Meyer - Secretary

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, January 13th -- 7:30 pm.