

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION  
COUNCIL OF GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF  
WESTMINSTER, MARYLAND HELD ON OCTOBER 15, 2012**

Members present:

Donald Ludwig, John Yarish, Charlie Beckhardt, Karen Ganjon, Rich Schuster, Nancy Taylor, Deborah Brennan, Mike Shipley, Linwood Van Horn, Rev. Martha Clementson, Rev. Kevin Clementson, Randy Bachtel, Ted Forman, Michele Krichinsky, Al Doermann, Ron Fairchild, Johanna Monka

Members Absent:

None

Guests present:

Vicar Karin Albaugh

Opening of Meeting:

Charlie Beckhardt, president of the council, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Pastor Martha Clementson led devotions. Vicar Karin Albaugh will lead devotions in November. The agenda was adopted as presented.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Charlie asked if there were any additions or corrections to the proposed minutes of the regular meeting held on September 17, 2012. The minutes were approved as presented.

President's Report:

Legacy Circle of Grace had their first annual celebration dinner on Oct. 11, 2012. Many thanks go out to the committee members of Legacy Circle of Grace for all of their hard work. The committee members include George Conover, Karen Ganjon, Neal Hoffman, Ed Leister, and Don Ludwig. It is time for committee budget requests to be presented to the Finance Committee. Each council member should be working with their committee assignments to prepare a budget request. Bishop Wolfgang has reported that as of the end of August there had been a decline of almost a third in Mission Support. Many programs and mission activities have been reduced or eliminated altogether. He expresses thanks to all of us for the support of the Synod. There was a resolution passed in 2010 to encourage congregations to consider tithing 10 to 30% to the synod. The average support is 5.5%. The budget at Grace is 10% of unrestricted gifts to support the wider church. We continue to seek candidates to run for election to both Council and Synod Assembly delegates.

Pastors' Report:

A written report was provided. Pastor Kevin reported he had learned via email from the ELCA that a child in Africa dies every 60 seconds of malaria. The number of deaths in Zambia was cut in half through congregational support of the ELCA.

### Treasurer's Report

A written report was presented. The Fiscal Year 2011 Audit Review concluded that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting. The council thanks all staff and committee members involved in the financial life of Grace. A donation of Exxon Mobil stock in the amount of \$9952.60 was transferred to mortgage debt reduction. The August and September treasurer's reports will be forwarded to the Auditing Committee.

### Old Business:

Continuing Resolution C12.05.E12-Financial Support of Members Engaged in Seminary Education Policy was approved as presented.

The Executive Committee moved that 10% of the Zepp Trust should be shared with benevolent causes. The suggested division of funds is as follows: \$4,500 to the Delaware Maryland Synod specifically to be used for campus ministries, \$2,000 to the ELCA Global Mission for Malaria Campaign, \$2,000 to Carroll County Food Sunday, \$2,000 to Shepherd's Staff, \$1,300 to Grace Lutheran Church as seed money for youth attending the 2014 National Youth Gathering in Detroit, Michigan. The motion passed.

Prayers of the church were offered by Council members.

### New Business:

A motion from Executive Committee was approved that up to \$340.00 from the Thanksgiving Eve service collection be directed to Tanzanian Task Force of the ELCA Missionary Support. The money is intended to be used for 2 months rent for missionary Annie Bunio who is in a 2 year term. If the monies are not needed for rent, they are to be directed to the Tanzanian Water Project.

A motion from Executive Committee was approved to appoint Craig Giles as one of the three representatives from Grace on the Timber Ridge Board. He is replacing Fred Schlerf who is relocating.

### Announcements:

There were none.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Taylor, Council Secretary