

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION  
COUNCIL OF GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF  
WESTMINSTER, MARYLAND HELD ON February 18, 2013**

Members Present:

Donald Ludwig, Charlie Beckhardt, Karen Ganjon, Rich Schuster, Nancy Taylor, Mike Shipley, Linwood Van Horn, Rev. Martha Clementson, Rev. Kevin Clementson, Kathy McLeod Rehak, Brian Sherfey, Donna Kent, Al Doermann, Ron Fairchild,

Members Absent:

Kevin Dayhoff, Johanna Monka

Guest: Vicar Karin Albaugh

Opening of Meeting:

Karen Ganjon, President of the Council, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Don Ludwig led devotions. Linwood Van Horn will lead devotions in March.

Meeting Agenda:

Two additions were made to the agenda prior to approval.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Karen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular council meeting held on January 21, 2013. There was one name correction and the minutes were approved.

President's Report:

Karen reported the Executive Committee had met and approved that the Ash Wednesday soup meal offering will go to the kitchen fund. Proceeds from all other Lenten soup meals will go to the Heifer Project. The Executive Committee also received a formal request from Pastor Martha to be absent April 6 and 7, 2013. The request was approved and the time off is not part of her regular vacation. The committee also thanked Pastor Martha for all of her work while Pastor Kevin was ill. Karen reported that in order to meet the Synod Constitution requirements, we have been given more delegate seats at the Annual Synod Assembly. We had not budgeted for this change. We had hoped to increase our youth participation. The committee agreed to ask Taylor Glass Button and Beth Clementson to attend the meeting. This will allow us to have 2 more delegates, increase our youth participation and not increase our costs. Executive Committee also approved expenditure to treat termites in the rental properties.

Pastors' Report:

A written report was provided. Pastor Martha pointed out that the funerals for Franklin Deardorff and Wilda Miller were not listed in the report. Pastor Martha presented a recommendation from the pastors that we designate Sunday April 28, 2013 as Carroll Lutheran School Sunday here at Grace. The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report:

A written report was provided. Don reports we are in a favorable cash position. Our liabilities are down \$78,000. Our expenditures are up. The mortgage principal as of Jan. 31, 2013 is \$2,039,993. Don will contact the Finance Committee about a \$10,000.00 note currently invested with the Mission Investment Fund that is coming due in February for advice on reinvesting. We received a thank you from Access Carroll Integrated Health Care for our donations in 2012 that totaled \$300.00. A motion was approved to refer the treasurer's report to the Audit Committee.

Old Business:

A motion was made and approved to begin discussions in Executive Session at 7:55pm. Executive session was concluded at 8:20pm. Ron Fairchild presented a briefing on the Growth in Ministry campaign. The committee has met 3 times. The campaign is now titled Growth for Ministry. The focus of the campaign is to discern what God is calling this community of faith to accomplish over the next 5 years. Pledges are central to this effort. The campaign will be announced at the annual meeting in May.

Prayers of the Church were offered by Al Doermann, Karen Ganjon, and Pastor Martha.

New Business:

The nominating committee brought forth a candidate to fulfill the council vacancy created when Deb Brennan resigned her position. The name presented was Bob Lichtfuss. Bob has been a member of Grace for 6 years. He, along with his daughter Maddie, serves as Worship Assistants. He has council experience at his prior church. He is willing to fulfill the 2 year obligation. He was unanimously elected. The Property Committee presented some security concerns. The Council approved enhanced security measures to be put in place. The Fellowship Committee presented a schedule of proposed events for the rest of the calendar year.

Announcements:

Karen reminded us that the Council will serve the Lenten meal this week.

Meeting Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Taylor, Council Secretary