

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL OF
GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WESTMINSTER, MARYLAND
HELD ON June 17, 2013**

Members Present:

Charlie Beckhardt, Karen Ganjon, Nancy Taylor, Johanna Monka, Donna Kent, Rich Schuster, Linwood Van Horn, Rev. Martha Clementson, Rev. Kevin Clementson, Brian Sherfey, Al Doermann, Ron Fairchild, Bob Lichtfuss, Kevin Dayhoff, Don Ludwig, Kathy Rehak, Mike Shipley

Members Absent:

None

Opening of Meeting:

Karen Ganjon, President of the council, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Devotions were led by Al Doermann.

Meeting Agenda:

The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

Karen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular council meeting held May 20, 2013. The minutes were approved after one spelling error and one word omission were corrected. Karen asked if there were any corrections or additions to the proposed Minutes of the Annual Informational Meeting of the Congregation of Grace Lutheran Evangelical Church. There were none and the minutes were referred to the next congregational meeting for approval.

President's Report:

Karen thanked everyone who helped with the yard sale on June 8, 2013. It was a wonderful day. The sale raised approximately \$1,200.00. Karen reported that this congregation has a very active Senior Ministry. More than 50 people attended the crab feast on June 9, 2013. The attendees enjoyed a musical presentation by the Carroll County Children's' Chorus. A special thank you goes out to Dave and Wyatt Cox for all their help with this event. There was one recommendation from the Executive Committee that the Scholarship Committee be able to award up to \$7500.00 in scholarships to the selected candidates for the 2013-14 school year. There are 9 candidates for the scholarships. Two members of council recused themselves from the vote. The recommendation passed.

Pastors' Report:

A written report was provided. Several items were highlighted. Day camp started June 17, 2013. There are 38 children participating. Carroll Lutheran Village had an excellent presentation about aging. The Men's' Night Out trip to the Frederick Keys baseball game has been cancelled.

Treasurer's Report:

The financial reports for May 2013 were provided. A Money Market account in the amount of \$120,000.00 was opened at New Windsor State Bank. The interest rate is low but we are unable to obtain a CD for a term less than 6 months. This will allow us free access to the money when we enter the refinancing of the mortgage this fall. At this time, we are \$20,000 under budget for the year. Our income for the year through May 2013 is very similar to 2012. We are still waiting for the final rental income check from the property manager. A motion was passed to refer the Treasurer's Report to the Audit Committee.

Committee Reports:

Linwood Van Horn reported that Social Ministry held a talent show. Various organizations such as Shepherd's Staff and Ardent Folk presented "commercials" during the show. Linwood would like to offer the opportunity to other committees to be part of the next show scheduled for November 2, 2013. Please let Linwood or Laura Heller know if you are interested. The Fellowship Committee reported that the church picnic will be held on July 14, 2013 at the Community Pond. Please bring a dish to share. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be provided. The family trip to the Frederick Keys game will be August 9, 2013.

Prayers of the Church were offered by Nancy Taylor, Donna Kent, and Pastor Martha.

Old Business:

Ron Fairchild gave an update on the Growth for Ministry Campaign. He thanked the Council for their generous support and increased giving. This will provide momentum to the campaign. The petitions in the prayers of the church will regularly reference stewardship and prayerful support of the campaign. The committee plans to continue to meet with small groups to build enthusiasm for the campaign. We are looking for initial pledges and prayers. This is an authentic effort of this community of faith to increase our stewardship and ministries. We have chosen to handle this campaign internally thus saving up to \$50,000. We want to be fiscally responsible in these difficult financial times.

New Business:

Leanne Elliott has brought to our attention an opportunity to be listed as a host site for the Youth Ministry Network. This is a Lutheran-based list of the ELCA. Pastor Kevin believes this could be an exciting ministry. Youth Missions are often limited by the cost of housing. We have an ideal set up here at Grace. More research needs to be done on costs, liabilities and risks before a decision can be made. Please direct any questions in writing to Karen or Leanne before our next meeting.

Announcements:

Kevin Dayhoff sent all members of the council a PDF of the suggested Committee Report form. There will be no council meeting on July 15, 2013 due to a conflict with Vacation Bible School. The next meeting will take place August 19, 2013.

Meeting Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Taylor, Council Secretary