

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL OF
GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Meeting Held on May 19, 2014**

Members Present

Ron Fairchild, Rev. Martha Clementson, Rev. Kevin Clementson, Donna Kent, Robert Lichtfuss, Don Ludwig, Donald Meyers, Carrie Oddis, Kathy Rehak, Michael Shipley, Linwood Van Horn, Kevin Dayhoff, Brian Sherfey, Rich Chaney

Members Absent

Patt Patterson Jones, Jan Mickey, Johanna Monka

Opening of Meeting

Ron Fairchild, President of the council, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and also led devotions.

Meeting Agenda and Approval of Minutes

The agenda was adopted and the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 21, 2014 were approved as submitted.

President's Report

Ron reflected on how well the annual congregational informational meeting seemed to have gone. He felt the priorities were put before the congregation and were well accepted.

Ron also gave an update on the Growth for Ministry and felt we are in better financial shape than we were last year. He compared the first 4 months of 2014 with the same period last year and we are approximately \$9,000 higher in general giving.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Martha gave an update on Little Friends of Grace. They currently have 96 students registered for the upcoming year. Pastor Martha also brought a motion forward to approve for Affirmation of Baptism for the current confirmation class. Motion passed unanimously.

Pastor Kevin informed the council of his current appointment as Interim Vice Pastor for the Lutheran congregation of Lazarus Church in Lineboro. He wanted everyone to know that this position will not take very much time monthly although he will be keeping track of the time actually spent. He also asked that if the council became concerned that the time spent was interfering in his work at Grace to please bring it forward to the council.

Treasurer's Report

Don Ludwig, treasurer, reviewed with the council the April financial reports. He also indicated the monies set aside for renovations was approximately \$222,143. The treasurer's report was accepted and will be referred to the Audit Committee.

Don reported the question of whether Grace was incorporated or not has been answered by way of letter and copies of the file by Neal Hoffman. Since it occurred so long ago the State's records did not show incorporation, however, the paperwork indicated we are indeed incorporated. We will now have copies of all the paperwork in our church files.

Prayers of the Church

Prayers of the church were given by Pastor Kevin, Rich Chaney and Brian Sherfey.

Old Business

Don Meyers again gave an update on renovations, insulation, roof repairs, etc. He is working closely with the group and will continue to keep us informed. Since we are at a point where we need to engage consultants he brought forth the following motion:

To authorize approval of funds not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000).

The motion passed.

Another item of old business was to again get the name of our new "prayer partner" for the next two months. We spent about 10 minutes talking with our partner(s).

New Business

Pastor Martha moved a motion to form an ad hoc committee to review and update our constitution. The committee will be comprised of Donna Kent, chair, Bob Lichtfuss, Charlie Beckhardt, Greg Hare and Pastor Martha. The motion passed.

A motion was made to increase the amount we charge the Carroll County Children's Chorus that meets here. The current charge is (and has been for some time) \$1500 per year. The motion was to stay at \$1500 through the end of 2014; 2015 would be increased to \$1750, and then 2016 would increase to \$2000. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Traditional Worship and Music

Bob Lichtfuss gave a report on the Traditional Worship and Music Committee. He brought forth the motion:

Authorize the committee to replace pew cushions and to find ways to raise the necessary funds to do so. The amount was estimated to be \$10,000.

Motion passed.

Bob also indicated that the committee would like to change the flooring in the Choir Loft which is now carpeted and make it tile during the renovation.

Youth and Family

Rich Chaney reported on the Youth and Family Committee. Plans for this year's VBS will be during the day this year. The theme will be "WEIRD ANIMALS" and they are expecting approximately 60 students.

Rich also stated that the ELCA Youth Gathering will be held next year in Detroit, Michigan.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9:00 p.m.

Next Council Meeting will be June 16, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Donna Kent, Council Secretary