

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION  
COUNCIL OF GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Meeting Held on April 18, 2016



Members Present

Ron Fairchild, Rev. Martha Clementson, Rev. Kevin Clementson, Don Meyers, Linwood Van Horn, Rich Chaney, Bill Comegna, Brian Sherfey, Bob Lichtfuss, Arthur Pease, Kevin Dayhoff, and Carrie Oddis

Members Absent

Jan Mickey, Jo Monka, Donna Kent, Patt Patterson Jones, and Kari Ebeling,

Special Guests

Judge Pete Tabatsko and Kathy Bare, with Stephen Ministry.

Opening of Meeting

President Ron Fairchild opened the meeting promptly at 7:00 pm. Brian Sherfey led devotions with a lesson from "All I Need to Know I learned from Kindergarten" about living a meaningful life and the lessons learned from kindergarten.

President's Report

Ron Fairchild introduced our guests from Stephen Ministry, Judge Pete Tabatsko, and Kathy Bare. Judge Tabatsko and Mrs. Bare discussed the role and function of the Stephen Ministry in the life of the church. He asked for the council to help spread the word about the work of Stephen Ministry in the church.

President Fairchild asked about the process of referring folks to Stephen Ministry. It was explained after a discussion with a parishioner, the matter is then referred to Stephen Ministry. Mr. Lichtfuss suggested that we spread word. Judge Tabatsko and Mrs. Bare were excused from the meeting after their report.

Meeting Agenda and Approval of Minutes

The April 18, 2016 meeting agenda was adopted.

The minutes from the prior meeting on March 21, 2016 were approved as amended to reflect that the motion for raising Pastor Martha's credit card limit from \$3,000 to \$5,000 was made by the executive committee and not Pastor Martha.

President Fairchild discussed the upcoming annual informational meeting next month on May 15, 2016 at 10:15 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. The meeting will be informal with refreshments from Panera.

Pastors' Report

Pastor Martha discussed a request from the Synod to do a 'noisy change collection' May 22, 2016 at the all-Grace service.

Pastor Martha made a motion that the following students be approved for Confirmation: Emma Border, Brianna Kessler, Haden Hoff, Dustin Oddis, and Jillian Tanzey. The motion passed unanimously.

Pastor Kevin discussed some details about the upcoming new members' class.

#### Treasurer's Report

After a detailed presentation by Treasurer Bill Comegna, Pastor Martha suggested that we research the historic definition and original-intent of the various 'restricted' funds listed in the balance sheet for a future presentation. A discussion followed with a consensus to follow-up this matter at a later date.

A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made; seconded, and passed unanimously.

#### Committee Reports

Rich Chaney mentioned an upcoming Shepherd's Staff board meeting.

Don Meyers made a brief report from the risk management committee about some various property issues, and matters in the personnel manual. Next meeting will take place in July.

#### Prayers of the Church

Prayers of the church were given by – Bob Lichtfuss, Ron Fairchild, and Pastor Martha.

#### New Business

Gifts for graduating seminarians was discussed. Bob Lichtfuss reported that the worship committee has recommended that we purchase a stole for seminary graduate Beth Clementson, and diaconal minister graduate Don Myers. A motion was made and approved to provide a council gift for the Grace Seminary graduates.

#### Prayer Partners

Prayer partners met for personal reflection and sharing.

#### Announcements

Linwood Van Horn shared that at the last social ministry committee it was discussed that Bon Secours area of West Baltimore has some unmet needs that Grace might have an opportunity to help with on a proposed mission trip on June 22 to the 25, 2016 in downtown Baltimore.

Representing the Christian education committee, Carrie Oddis briefly discussed that the last day of Sunday school is May 15, 2015

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kevin E. Dayhoff, substitute council secretary for Donna Kent

Our Mission: Gifted with God's grace, redeemed by God's Son, and filled with the Holy Spirit, we grow in our relationship with God, one another, and community. Through word and sacrament, we gather to worship, learn, and go into the world empowered to serve.