

MINUTES OF CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
January 8, 2008

Attending: Bryce Beckman, Tom Burton, Bill Cochran, Michael Harvey, Pastor Jim, Pastor Rance, John Sprenger, Roger Toomey, Dick Valde, Ruth Weispfenning, and Anita Werle, Guest.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Bill Cochran. George Poch gave the opening devotion

Minutes of the December meeting were approved as printed.

Old Business:

Ruth Weispfenning told us the **Planning for the Future Committee** will meet again on January 22.

Pastor Jim reported that the **75th Anniversary** Committee has implemented a new masthead for the weekly bulletins: "Redeemer, Remembering, Rejoicing, Reaching Out.". The Committee is working on history, memorabilia, and have received quite a few stained glass concepts. We will vote on a choice of 4.

Ruth Weispfenning reported that the **Emergency Preparedness Team** has another meeting next Monday. They hope to give a presentation at the Annual Voters' Meeting.

Pastor Jim reported that our contributions for missions exceeded last year's which is a good sign. The new budget will be distributed at the Annual Meeting and discussed at that time. A general discussion on our new financial statement for the year 2007 then took place. Tom Burton introduced Anita Werle as our bookkeeper. Anita will research why RPU expenses are so high. Motion was made, seconded and passed to present the Budget to the Voter's Annual Meeting on January 20.

Items for the Agenda for the Annual Meeting were discussed. Items to be included are as follows: Staff Reports, Board Reports, Old Business; 75th Anniversary update by Dave Dubbels; Emergency Preparedness update by Gary Schroeder; Mortgage Reduction report; New Business: Budget, Mission Statement and Mission Projects for 2008.

Packets of information for the Annual Meeting will be available ahead of time so that people attending the meeting can be more prepared about items to be covered.

New Business:

There was no new business to discuss.

Officer, Board and Cabinet Reports

President's Report: **Ruth Weispfenning**
Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report **Tom Burton**

Tom showed the Council the new income statements and explained it. For the year 2007, the total income was \$650,942, while the total expenses were \$639,390. The mortgage balance was reduced from \$1,102,406 to a balance of \$874,351. Tom and Anita were both thanked by Council members for the great job they have done this year.

Church Growth
No report

Board of Education **George Poch**

Discussion covered what to submit for the Annual Meeting and discussed BRIGHT Night, the winter confirmation retreat and VBS.

Board of Elders

No report.

Family Life

No report.

Fund Development**John Sprenger**

The year-end balance in this fund is \$86,683.

Health Cabinet**Roger Toomey**

The next cholesterol screening is set for February 10.

Human Concerns**Kay Fockler** (by email)

We will be hosting an IHN volunteer training here at Redeemer this Thursday. Redeemer has been assigned two new buddy churches to help with our weeks of hosting. We look forward to meeting these people. Our next guest hosting will be the week of February 3rd. There were several people that indicated an interest in Human Concerns activities, and Kay is happily following up on these people.

RLCW

The LWML Zone Workshop will meet at Redeemer on February 9 to sew baby items. Rebecca Circle will serve the Lenten supper on February 13 and RLCW will serve the Lenten supper on February 20. A new list of funeral and event workers is needed, so a notice will be put in the next Resource asking for volunteers.

Board of Stewardship

No report.

Board of Trustees**Dick Valde**

Since the ridership for the Sunday bus has been only two or three people each week, the Trustees have recommended that we suspend the bus service and have volunteers transport the people needing a ride to and from church.

The roof ice dams continue to be a problem. A company from the Twin Cities is coming down this week to give us an estimate for having heat tape installed. However, this work cannot be done until next spring, so in the meantime, we plan to use volunteers to rake the snow off the roof for the balance of this winter.

Youth Ministry**Bryce Beckman**

The Hometown Gratitude was great, and items will be taken to Mayo High School for delivery. Parents' Night Out is scheduled for Saturday, February 16. The Youth will do a Lenten supper if needed, and prefer to do it on February 20. Upcoming events include skiing on January 19 at Welch Village; a progressive dinner for February 15 and 22 with a lock-in afterwards; possible bowling in March, and a servant event in Rushford. Super Bowl subs are being sold now.

Staff Reports**Pastor's Report****Pastor Jim**

Average weekend church attendance in December was down due to a significant snowstorm the first weekend. Both Advent and Christmas Eve service attendance were up. Pastor Jim took a quick trip to Texas with Pastor Rance filling in during his absence.

Pastor's Report**Pastor Rance**

Pastor Rance has been working hard to check into interest for new Stephen Ministers and ensuing training. New member Sunday is scheduled for January 27 with approximately 13 new members to be accepted.

DCE Report**Michael Harvey**

Michael has several projects he is involved with: Adult Bunco night, BRIGHT Night, confirmation retreat and skiing. He is scheduled for another KINDLE meeting in Chicago January 27-21, and will begin approaching laypeople in our congregation to get involved with the program.

DPM Report**April Beckman**

April was not present at tonight's meeting, but had submitted a written report. April has the Spring schedule set up and music is here. She has met with Carol Sonnabend and Earl Schwerman in conjunction with the 75th Anniversary celebration. They are planning an Alumni Choir to participate in the June 29th celebration service.

A motion was made seconded and was carried to adjourn the meeting. Pastor Jim gave the closing prayer.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 12, 2008, beginning at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Recorded by Dorothy Zemke at the meeting

Typed by Elaine Gittus, Secretary