

**St. Stephen Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2011**

Present: John Farmer, Larry Nihart, Patsy Olson, Bill Kneip, Marissa Amborn, Anne Jackson-Field, Marta Hohnstadt, Pastor Jim Woodruff, Jenny Nordahl, Pete Johnson, Ted Field & Nicole Ternus.

Absent: Cheryl Skyrpez.

Charlie Jackson who also gave devotions called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Welcome new members Marissa & John appreciate your commitment & thanks for being here & thanks to Pete for re-upping.

Prayer Concerns: Kay Brown, Wendell Peck & family, Dahl family & Growing family.

Approval of Minutes: Bill made a motion to approve the minutes & Larry 2nd. Motion Carried.

Adjustments to the Agenda: Lenten service on the agenda is about the meal. John would like to make a motion to dissolve the call committee.

Treasurer's Report: Officially done with 2010, I have closed the books. Well into Jan, I'm still in the process of entering the budget. You will notice a difference in envelope & loose plate, as I will be making journal adjustments according to information from Maria. We received a \$3,000 gift to the Capital Fund. Have special designated funds been moved for the doors? No. Jenny made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report & Bill 2nd. Motion carried. Benevolence: \$426.58; Current: (\$7,606.09); Special Designated: 4129,596.80; Capital Fund: \$2,068.97.

Pastor's Report: Happy Valentine's Day! Thanks for being here. We will again be using the Holden service for Lent. Would like to plan on a half-day retreat in the next month or so. This month's All Team Ministry Night will be Feb 28th a week later than usual. If possible we'd like all Council Members to be present. Would like the Council to officially re-appoint the Hospitality, Decoration Ad Hoc Committee. Several projects left over that should be addressed, namely kitchen & church offices. Property will have several large projects this year, funded primarily by memorial or special designated funds. John made a motion to designate \$32,000 from Pastor Jim's compensation package for 2011 housing allowance & Larry 2nd. Motion carried. Baptisms: Claire & Lily Hauth (01-23-11), Ella Brumm (02-06-11), Eva Scholl (02-12-11).

Memorial Fund Projects: The doors - \$7500, stained glass - \$540, Blvd sign - \$1655, wall relief - \$84. Door money is good to go. Doors are ordered. Thinking they'll be in by early March. Welcome center - went to two places & looked at stone & granite, now just need to have the people who are funding it look at the sample first. Looking at painting the offices the last week of the month.

Officers/Vice President Nominations: Jenny made a motion to approve Nicole Ternus as Council Secretary, Pasty Olson as Treasurer, & Maria Jackson as Financial Secretary & Marta 2nd. Motion carried. Jenny nominated Anne Jackson for Vice President. Pete nominated Marta Honstadt for Vice President. A secret ballot vote was held. Charlie counted the votes. Marta is the new Vice President.

Lenten Services: Teams provide the meal usually two teams work together. March 9th – no meal, March 16th Fellowship & Property, March 23rd – Adult Learning & Finance, March 30th – Worship & Music & Stewardship, April 6th – Youth, Patsy & Evangelism, April 13th – Children’s & Social Ministry. Should we hold a noon Lenten service? Audience of people who can’t come at night. We would need to come up with a pianist - \$450 – have the money budgeted in the staff column. Anne made a motion to add to the budget a line item of 7 Lenten (6 Wed noon & 1 Good Fri) for pianist for Wed noon service & Marta 2nd. Money will partially be made up from the service itself. If we advertise we may get outside attendance. Good Fri will be a day service. Motion carried. Evangelism will be responsible for publishing in the White Bear Press & any other free place we can.

Exterminator: We have an issue with pests. We need to see if we can get a professional bid to take care of it. Think we should have bait boxes. Can we call & get a quote for an estimate? Have we had an exterminator come in before? No. Property or custodians to take care of. Think broader scope than just mice.

Council Annual Retreat: Is there a reason we’re doing it on a Sat instead of a Sun? No. The date has been set for March 6th from 12-3. We will talk about goals, orientation, food, & have discussions. Heads up Anne will be sending a survey for changing service times. To be discussed at the retreat.

Everyone in Mission: Education opportunity to tell the congregation what ministry teams do & use it for an invitation for volunteers. Intense programming effort in front of the congregation, each Sun focuses on a ministry team. Brochures made up for ministry teams, brief presentation, and rep in the narthex to talk to people. April 10th all ministry team display. Updating time & talent sheets. How do we encourage perpetual volunteerism? Do we need a volunteer coordinator? May be one of the positions we’re looking for step back a little bit – training for coordinator of ministry team.

First Sun Brunch: Should go to Fellowship or Social Ministry. Fellowship will take it & decide on if we should continue.

Stained Glass: Adult Learning was working on it but there has been a problem with the pictures. Talk to Cheryl to get going. Want to do an adult forum & have the brochure ready before Easter. Need to figure out plaque. Do we have a policy about labeling things? Is it a written policy? It has been our policy not to label things.

Call Committee: John made a motion to dissolve the existing call committee & Anne 2nd. 4 years ago the committee was formed & then put on hold. A year ago it was put together again & put on hold again. When time is right a new committee should be formed. Motion carried.

Larry made a motion to adjourn & Bill 2nd. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm with the Lord’s Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nicole Ternus.