

**Christ Lutheran Church
Council Minutes
December 16, 2013**

Present: Pastor Eric Moehring, Pastor Kristin Hunsinger, Council President Heather Heckel, Vice President Tinky Keen, Treasurer Paul Quel, Secretary Stephanie Feaser, Council Members: Dennis Burns, Chad Foltz, John Jung, Diane Kellogg, Ferrell Newman, George Springer, Sarah Vaughan

Absent: Ernie Foltz, Bruce Matson

Incoming Council Members Present: Shannon Fleming, Faith Hobson, Jim Ingraham, Glen Kellogg, Gerald Ransone

Guest: Dr. Mark Cooper, facilitator recommended by Synod

Tinky opened the meeting with devotions.

Minutes from November were approved with Paul's corrections to the Treasurer's Report.

Pastor Eric's Report: (No written report, just returning from sabbatical)

Pastor Kristin's Report: (No written report, vacation December 26- January 2)

Ministry Team Reports:

Evangelism (Sarah) – Written Report including a list of upcoming events and vacancies on the committee.

Old Business:

- 1) **Constitutional Updates (Sarah)** – See Notes and decisions below
 - a. C101 – change address to **Henrico**, instead of Richmond
 - b. C6.05j – keep **6 months** time frame
 - c. C10.03 – leave two consecutive Sundays **or** by mail
 - d. C10.07 – keep option to vote by **secret ballot**
 - e. C11.01 – change “bylaws” to “**continuing resolutions**”
 - f. C11.03 – Do not include term limits.
 - g. C12.01 – Remove “the officers of the congregation” from the sentence about the “voting membership”.
 - h. C12.05 – Exclude sentence about “entering into contracts of up to \$500 for items not included in the budget”.
- 2) **Election of Officers for 2014**

President – Heather was elected President for a second term.
Vice President – Tinky declined the nomination for a second term. Glen was elected Vice President.
Treasurer – Paul will continue in the position
Financial Secretary – Cindy will continue in the position
Secretary – Diane Kellogg will take over in January

Treasurer's Report (Expense Sheet) – No changes from last month with a deficit of about \$8,000 anticipated for 2013.

Budget Discussion for 2014/Future Planning (Facilitated by Dr. Mark Cooper from Synod):

Two Issues:

- 1) Immediate solution needed for 2014 budget deficit:
 - a. \$8,000 deficit for 2013 will leave only about \$2,000 in reserve fund (savings).
 - b. We could be facing a \$60,000 deficit in 2014 if expenses and pledges stay as is.
 - c. The congregational meeting to vote on the budget which usually happens in December, but will have to be postponed until at least January this year.
 - d. The Treasurer forecasts that in about 2-4 months, bills will start going unpaid.
 - e. The congregation has not been informed of the severity of the budget issues and while some suspect there are issues, others are unaware.
 - f. Council needs to tell the congregation the reality of the financial situation and the potential consequences, soon.
 - g. Council is considering a written document for the congregation to explain the situation, the options, council's recommendations, and asking for their input.
 - h. A new committee was formed including Shannon, Stephanie and Ferrell, plus Heather, Glenn and Gerald from the Recommendation Committee, in consultation with the pastors, to draft an informational document for the congregation regarding our budget situation and how to improve it. The committee is scheduled to meet on January 6 and present a draft of their letter to council on January 13.
- 2) Longer term leadership/vision/mission issues. (Discussion postponed until letter is written.)

Other Business:

- 1) Council voted to continue the tradition of giving \$100 to staff members, Katy, Linda and Susan, for Christmas.
- 2) If you are going off council, please give your shepherding list to an incoming member who is on your list or to Tinky or Ernie for redistribution to incoming council members.

Meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 13, 2013

Submitted by Stephanie Feaser, Council Secretary