

# **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES**

Sunday, January 22, 2012

CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
35851 UTICA RD. • CLINTON TWP, MI 48035-2153

**ATTENDEES:** 60 People signed in (refer to attendance sheet)

**CALL TO ORDER:** 12:12 PM

**INVOCATION & OPENING PRAYER:** Pastor Barry

## **October 23, 2011 MINUTES REVIEWED**

- Motion to accept minutes by Bob Leverenz
- Motion seconded by Randy Dane
- Motion carried

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Bob Brown

-Bryan Knop—Spoke about Thrivent assets—recouped initial sales load and had a balance of \$54,325.92 as of 1/22/2011.

Bryan Knop—Thrivent Choice Dollars directed to Cross in 2010: \$696. For 2011: \$4,050—largely due to awareness of the program and more Cross members becoming Thrivent members, participating in the program

- Positive net income for the year of \$22,644.12
- Balance sheet is in order
- During 2011, paid down mortgage with additional principal of \$21,686.46—9 more years and the mortgage will be paid off
- Motion to accept report by Carl Kammer
- Second by Naomi Loose
- Motion carried

## **Discussion:**

- Carl Kammer—question about 2012 budget cut. Answer: defer to later in meeting

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1) Prepare to Repair Advent 2011-Nov 20th
  - a. Cleave House--\$2,163.43 was the total collected. A big thank you from Tom Blohm and Naomi Loose
- 2) Healthy Congregations Workshop—Nov 6th
  - a. Tom Blohm—great turnout (28 people roughly)—will be having other sessions in the near future.
- 3) Visit by Pastor Beck—ELCA Nov 20<sup>th</sup>
  - a. Jim Loftus—spoke about the interim process to the congregation—answered a lot of questions from members

## ONGOING BUSINESS:

- 1) Community Dinners
  - a. Carolyn Kammer—Received donations for upcoming meal, but do need workers and kitchen help for next dinner (sign-up sheet passed out).
  - b. Card Rack serviced by Carole Christie for last 15 years—wanted to recognize the service she has provided
- 2) Photo Directory
  - a. Jim Loftus—should be receiving those by the end of this month (January 2012). Thank you to Tom Johnson for heading up this effort
- 3) Fall Worship Schedule Feedback
  - a. Karen Loftus—discussion highlights from Parenting 101 class about worship schedule structure (8 households represented in the discussions)
    - i. Would like 2 services (one that would have Sunday School during a service)
    - ii. Possibility of having communion and elements of worship during Sunday School
    - iii. Other ideas tossed out, but no conclusions/binding decisions made—just brainstorming about future ideas
- 4) Website
  - a. Tina Wisbiski—Paid a contractor in the Fall of 2011 to update and redesign our website. His work was completed in December 2011 and has been handed over to Matt Tipton. Matt is working hard to get the website up and running early this year.
  - b. Still looking for a volunteer to “own” the content of the website. Idea—1 to 2 hours per week to ensure that the content is up to date. See Tina if interested in this opportunity.
- 5) Classroom Furnace Update
  - a. Not fixed yet—still working to fix this issue
- 6) Transition Team
  - a. Tom Blohm—met one time in November 2011—will meet again when there is an interim minister at Cross. This committee is different than the Interim Task Force.
- 7) Youth Advisory Board (YAB)
  - a. Claudia Karpinkas—YAB looks for opportunities to further the mission statement/ministry at Cross.
  - b. Youth Gift Scholarship Fund started to assist with funding for National Gathering in New Orleans in July.
- 8) Recognition of 2011 Executive Board
  - a. Jim Loftus—recognized members of 2011 Executive Board and thanked them for their service during the last 12 months
  - b. Handed gavel to Tom Blohm
- 9) Remarks from the President
  - a. Jim Loftus—

## NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Introductions of 2012 Executive Board
  - a. Past President-Jim Loftus, VP-Glenn Wynn, Secretary-Bryan Knop, Treasurer-Bob Brown, Recording Secretary-Jerry Huff, Counting Secretary-Mark Robinson, Technology-Tina Wisbiski, Nurture-Deb Teasdale, Community Ministry—Carolyn Kammer, Fellowship-

Steve and Val Buckley, Evangelism—Tom Johnson, Christian Ed-Laura Ocelinik, Youth Committee Leaders-Lisa Beauvais & Jenna Smith, Sunday School Supervisor—Charmaine Wray, Stewardship—Randy Dane, Worship-Bob Leverenz, Property-OPEN (possibly Jim Thompson)

- 2) Installation of 2012 Executive Board
  - a. Pastor Barry—prayer and installation for new members
- 3) Staff Update
  - a. Claudia Karpinkas—will be adding additional 10 hours/week to her position with Cross
- 4) 2012 Budget
  - a. Bob Brown—introduced proposed 2012 budget
  - b. Anticipated income estimated to decrease in 2012. Not necessarily a bad thing—we had a surplus from 2011, very effective cost containment measures in place, and reduced Pastoral compensation (we won't know this figure more definitively until we get closer to having an interim pastor).
  - c. Finance Committee and Executive Board believe that proposed budget is also a balanced budget
  - d. Motion to accept budget: Rich Jones
  - e. Second: Sally Maisano
  - f. Budget Passes; so moved!
  - g. *Discussion:* Extra \$3,000 for Youth budget is to further that ministry and various programs (principal increase relative to Claudia's efforts with the youth). Lisa Beauvais—in previous years—not many programs; little cost—Claudia has several visions for ideas, programs, and activities for the youth of Cross

Pastoral compensation for 2011 appears to be over budget. Bob Leverenz—Claudia was paid out of Pastoral Compensation budget instead of Support Staff. Bob will try to realign the accounts for 2012 budget. Keep Claudia under Support Staff.

Sharon Newhouse—how come Judy Teller is not paid? The Executive Board will look into this concern in 2012.

- 5) Pastor Barry & Elaine's Farewell Open House
  - a. Val Buckley—thank you for submitting your RSVPs—lots of volunteers already. Tom Blohm—Thank you to everyone who is working on this.
- 6) New Rally Day
  - a. Claudia Karpinkas—New kickoff for some of our old programming and also to start new programs—"Current" small group and 10:45 all-in-one Sunday School are some of the new programs starting that day. See bulletin boards for additional sign-ups and programs. See Claudia Karpinkas for additional questions.
- 7) Interim Minister
  - a. Tom Blohm—supply pastors over the next few weeks—Heather Oberlin and Kirstin Tannas will be coming back to Cross over the next several weeks.
  - b. Pastor Beck has said that within the next two weeks, the Executive Board will be interviewing for the interim pastor position—review process with the Bishop after 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> month with the interim. Thanks to Bob Leverenz for setting up the supply pastor schedule.
- 8) Help with setting up the Sanctuary after Congregational Meeting
- 9) 2012 President's Comments

- a. Tom Blohm—Always available for comments, feedback, concerns, etc. Discussed year of change and how we can adapt to this. Embrace the change; asked for congregational participation; looking forward to determining and continuing to fulfill our purpose
- b. Presentation of gift to Jim Loftus (former President)

**CLOSING PRAYER: Pastor Barry**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: Mike Beauvais, Second by: Glenn Wynn**

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 1:16 PM**