

# The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

## Council Minutes November 13, 2008

**Present:** Spike Millman      Marcia Kjesbu      Marcia Riggers  
Carolyn Wagner      Leo Eliason      Karen Olson  
Ralph Birmingham      Jamie Huzinga,      Gery Gerst  
Ron Tuvey, President

Ex-officio: Pastor John Rosenberg, Pastor Chuck Harris

**Guests:** Don Rossow and Bob Harvey (Trust Board financial education series)

**Absent:** Lynn McCallum, Steve Peterson, administrator (ex-officio)

**Please note:** As a result of conversations during the Council Retreat last month, we are using a new format for our agenda. Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm.

**Gather Together: Experience, scripture and prayer** Using mutual invitation we reflected on where/how we have experienced God lately. Scripture: Hebrews 2:17-18; 7:26-7; 9:14

### **Practice Accountability (Reports, etc.)**

1. Worship coordinator position:
  - a. Pr John reported that the worship/music task force has been meeting since 7/2008 and has developed a job description, made recommendations to council and posted the job opportunity.
  - b. 4 candidates submitted resumes, 2 telephone interviews were conducted and 1 candidate was brought from Texas for an on-site interview. This most promising candidate has since withdrawn from the process for his own reasons.
  - c. Currently LCGS does not have adequate funds to hire this position. Therefore this configuration for a worship coordinator will need to be placed on hold.
  - d. Pr John is planning a "Worship Summit", January 31 9-noon, to discuss the "big picture" of our worship. Details TBA.
2. Marcia R. moved that we designate "worship leaders" for each regular service, who will be accountable to the pastors, with a letter of commission and stipend compensation, timing as deemed appropriate by Pastors John and Chuck. Leo 2<sup>nd</sup>.
3. Discussion: Currently we have 3 expressions of worship a) Celebration – led by Pete and Jana Gedde, b) ELW – led by Vicki Tobin, and c) Unfailing Light – led by Darcy Eliason and Heidi Jones. In order to provide support for these leaders and insure appropriate accountability to the congregation for their leadership, these individuals would be specially designated and commissioned to lead worship for LCGS. Pastors will provide the framework for the services. Motion carries unanimously.
4. **Follow up:** Brainstorm new names to designate our service styles

5. Jamie moved we table the worship position for 12 months or whenever finances permit to reconsider posting position; whichever comes first. Marcia R. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Karen moved we thank the worship/music task force for their service and formally disband the committee. Spike 2<sup>nd</sup>. Discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
7. **Follow up:** Carolyn will draft a letter of thanks to the committee members and Pr John will distribute.

**Develop our Leadership Skills (Learning feature):** Pr Chuck led us in discussion of our reading from Transforming Leaders, chapter 14.

Summary: How leaders interact with emotional issues in critical. There is a shared history in congregations and being aware of “ghosts” is helpful – past, events, decisions, former members all persist into the present.

Leaders function best when they are able to remain connected, self-differentiated and non-anxious.

The postures of a “non-working group” include a) dependency, b) fight/flight and c) pairing (eternal solution).

The healthy responses to these postures are a) empower others and keep boundaries (saying “no”), b) grace and reconciliation (Christ gives us the gift of being a reconciled/reconciling community.) and c) recognize and foster a “climate of abundance”. Note the importance of avoiding a failure of imagination of recognizing our abundance and resilience.

**Implement our Mission and Goals:**

1. Trust Board Education Series: Don Rossow and Bob Harvey have developed, at the request of the Trust Board, a 12 month curriculum for an on-going educational series to raise awareness of the function of the Trust Board and to help increase endowments. (See attachment)
2. Leo moved that we bless, encourage and invite Don Rossow and Bob Harvey to implement the Trust Board education series in collaboration with the Pastors, the Stewardship Committee and the BMC. Spike 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried unanimously. **Follow up:** Don and Bob are asked to be sure to clarify what the Trust Board to the congregation as this series goes forward. **Note:** This effort is another example of affirming the gifts of the congregation and recognizing the abundance of our congregation. Pastor John enthusiastically endorses this effort.
3. Approval of Minutes:
  - a. Correction: October 9, 2008, spelling of Kurt’s name. Marcia K. moved we approve the October minutes as corrected; Leo 2<sup>nd</sup>. Minutes approved unanimously.
  - b. Marcia R. moved we approve the minutes of August 14, 2008; Spike 2<sup>nd</sup>. Minutes approved unanimously.
4. Marcia R. moved the Chair appoint 2 council members (one original to the Succession Team and one new) to review the recommendations of the Succession Team and report to the Council in January 2009, 1) how shall the Council implement on a regular basis and 2) are there areas requiring a special task force to address? Leo 2<sup>nd</sup>. Discussion: Carolyn was commended for the article in last month’s Sheepskin delineating status of the

implementation of the Plan for Mission. Prior Succession Team members will decide among themselves who will work on this project and advise the Chair. Motion carries unanimously.

5. Financial update: Leo reported that we currently have a \$126,000 shortfall. BMC will forward suggestions to the Council in December 2008 to manage funds.
6. Pastor Chuck was installed on November 9, 2008. All who helped in the planning and coordination of this event were thanked. Offering at that event was designated to the Food Bank. \$1124 was donated to the Food Bank in Pastor Chuck's honor.
7. Reports by Pastor John
  - a. Catechumenate Program "Journey of Faith" is being developed by both Pastor John and Pastor Chuck. This 20 week program will begin Feb 8 2009. (see attachment) In particular Pr John wishes to foster an environment at LCGS where it is always okay to ask questions.
  - b. Reconciling in Christ Program: An initial meeting of members interested in issues relating to gay/lesbian/bi/transgendered persons was held last week. Pr. John provided an intro to this program. Conversations are happening around this topic. All are welcome. (See attachment.)

#### COUNCIL MOTIONS

TOPIC	MOTION/ACTION	APPROVED	FAILED
<b>Worship Leadership</b>	Marcia R. moved & Leo 2 <sup>nd</sup> that we designate "worship leaders" for each regular service, who will be accountable to the pastors, with a letter of commission and stipend compensation, timing as deemed appropriate by Pastors John and Chuck.	<b>X</b>	
<b>Postpone Worship Coordinator Position</b>	Jamie moved & Marcia R 2 <sup>nd</sup> we table the worship position for 12 months or whenever finances permit to reconsider posting position; whichever comes first.	<b>X</b>	
<b>Disband Worship/ Music Task Force</b>	Karen moved & Spike 2 <sup>nd</sup> we thank the worship/music task force for their service and formally disband the committee.	<b>X</b>	
<b>Trust Board Financial Education Series</b>	Leo moved and Spike 2 <sup>nd</sup> that we bless, encourage and invite Don Rossow and Bob Harvey to implement the Trust Board education series in collaboration with the Pastors, the Stewardship Committee and the BMC.	<b>X</b>	
<b>Plan for Mission Implementation program</b>	Marcia R. moved and Leo 2 <sup>nd</sup> the Chair appoint 2 council members (one original to the Succession Team and one new) to review the recommendations of the Succession Team and report to the Council in January 2009, 1) how shall the Council implement on a regular basis and 2) are there areas requiring a special task force to address?	<b>X</b>	

**Go in Peace and Serve the Lord:**

Reflection on what we learned tonight and what we appreciate about each other.

**Next Meeting:** December 11, 2008, 6pm at Spike Millman's home, format TBA

**Assignment:** Transforming Leadership, Chapter 13, Scripture: Micah 6:8

**Closing** The Lord's Prayer

**Respectfully Submitted;**

Carolyn Wagner

**Attachments:**

Council Retreat Notes (per Marcia R. 10/18/08)

Trust Board Financial Education Series (Don Rossow and Bob Harvey)

Journey of Faith tri-fold draft (Catechumenate program) (Pastor John)

Handout of Reconciling in Christ Program