

# The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

## Council Minutes

April 2, 2009

**Present:** Karen Olson Marcia Kjesbu Leo Eliason Spike Millman  
Carolyn Wagner (sec'y) Ron Tuvey, President

**Ex-officio:** Pastor John Rosenberg, Pastor Chuck Harris, Missy Tade, and Steve Peterson,

**Absent:** Gery Gerst, Lynn McCallum, Marcia Riggers, Jamie Huzinga, Ralph Birmingham

**Gather Together: Experience, scripture and prayer** Reflections on where we have seen God this month. Scripture: Isaiah 25:6-9; devotionals led by Pr John. Reflections and comments on this passage. Prayers for our world, community, and congregation.

Quorum achieved at 7:12. Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm. Rm 114

### Practice Accountability (Reports, etc.)

1. Minutes : Marcia K moved that the March minutes be accepted. Leo second. Passed unanimously.
2. Administrator's Report: See attached.
  - a. Preliminary materials have been developed for 4.19.09 forum.
  - b. Olympia Community School negotiations are going forward and appear to be promising – minimum of 2 year lease; \$1,800/mo + utilities
3. VP of Business: Leo reported that we saved 31,080 kilowatt hours with significant savings - \$4,304 (not adjusted for inflation) over the last 6 months. These savings are a direct result of changing to energy efficient light bulbs, reduction of heat etc. and other energy saving strategies.
4. Pastor John's report:
  - a. Interfaith Works – ecumenical opportunity 4/21/09– we are entitled to have someone from LCGS serve on the Board.
  - b. Housing Allowance: would like to increase his housing allowance – this is a budget neutral change. Leo moved we approve Pastor John's request to increase his housing allowance to \$3275. Karen second. Passed unanimously.
  - c. Fund raising for "Holy Conversation" going well – over \$9900 has already been pledged.
5. AIM report:
  - a. Missy discussed Faith Formation and the analogy of "Frogs without Legs Can't Hear". Current literature posits there is a strong correlation between attendance in adult education and youth education. Therefore adults must model for youth how to be engaged in faith formation as a lifelong enterprise. Secondly, adults need to be empowered to model and support faith education at home.
  - b. Mission History and ELCA Mission Philosophy – see attached.

### Develop our Leadership Skills (Learning feature):

Pr Chuck – how a congregation is constituted /organized makes the mission possible. Community by nature is *messy* - therefore we need governance and leadership; only chaos thrives in chaos. Good leaders are choreographers of community and foster leadership throughout the community and clarify purpose and values and goals. What kind of leader was

Jesus? VERY unconventional – his was a contrast model of leadership (upside down and backwards to convention). Organizers and trouble makers were both valued as leaders –

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together make a creative tension. Early Christian communities had at their roots a commitment to solve inequality, critique power, stewardship of the gifts of earth, hospitality to strangers and consideration of the welfare of your enemy. We exist in tension between being Disciples of Christ while living in our society.

### Implement our Mission and Goals:

1. Council sub-committee on Succession Team recommendations/LCGS constitution for conformity: Memo from Carolyn and Gery– see attached. Carolyn presented rationale for bringing the constitution into conformity and reviewed the particulars where specific recommendations have been made to reflect the history of LCGS. Spike moved to approve the changes recommended by the committee and the Leadership Team to bring the LCGS Constitution into conformity and refer them to the congregation for consideration at the Annual Meeting. Leo second. Passed unanimously.
2. RIC: proposed plan for bringing extravagant welcoming program forward to the congregation. They are seeking Council endorsement of their plan. The Council continues to appreciate the good work the RIC is doing. Karen moved that we endorse this plan and bless them as they move forward. Spike second. Passed unanimously.
3. Congregation Forums, April 19 at 9:30am, 12:15pm and 6:00pm: Steve will plan to present budget information. Carolyn and/or Gery will present info regarding the Constitutional changes for conformity. Council members should plan to attend as many as possible.
4. Annual Meeting: Planning, format, reports
  - a. Pr Joel Wedell will preach
  - b. Planning task force – Pr John, Leo, Barb, Spike, Ron and Carolyn
  - c. Raffle items? – must be present to win
  - d. Meeting to be held in the sanctuary – lunch will be provided in Crary Hall
  - e. Pastor John reminded us not to approach the planning of our Annual Meeting out of fear of low attendance.
  - f. Mailing to congregation for Annual Meeting to go out no later than April 17. Plan: mailing to go out 4/14. Carolyn and Ron will coordinate. Carolyn will draft language explaining Constitution changes for conformity. Ron will contact Stewardship to have materials re: kickoff Sunday and stewardship challenges to add to mailing. Timing of this mailing will also allow us to advertise the April 19 Congregational Forums.

Note: Leo and Jamie will write a council April Sheepskin article (“the hammer & the pen”).

### Congregational Forums: April 19

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

**Adjourn:** 9:20pm – Leo moved we adjourn, Spike second. Passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, April 23, 2009

**Closing :** The Lord’s Prayer

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## COUNCIL MOTIONS

TOPIC	MOTION/ACTION	APPROVED	FAILED
<b>Approve March minutes</b>	Marcia K moved and Leo 2 <sup>nd</sup> we approve the March Minutes as submitted.	<b>X</b>	
<b>Pastor John's Housing Allowance Increase</b>	Leo moved and Karen 2 <sup>nd</sup> we approve Pastor John's housing allowance increase to \$3275. (This is a budget neutral change)	<b>X</b>	
<b>LCGS Constitution to be brought into conformity</b>	Spike moved and Leo 2 <sup>nd</sup> we approve the changes recommended by the committee and Leadership Team to bring the LCGS Constitution into conformity and refer them to the congregation for consideration at Annual Meeting 2009.	<b>X</b>	
<b>RIC Extravagant Welcome Program</b>	Karen moved and Spike 2 <sup>nd</sup> we endorse the RIC proposed plan to bring an extravagant welcoming program forward to the congregation in a faithful journey of discernment.	<b>X</b>	

**Respectfully Submitted:** Carolyn Wagner

**Attachments:**

- Financial Statement for March
- Missy Tade's Faith Formation Report
- Mission History at LCGS
- Memo: LCGS Constitution Prepared for Conformity
- LCGS Constitution Prepared for Conformity version 4.2.09
- Reconciling In Christ Task Force: Plan for an extravagant welcome faith journey

**Follow up tasks:**

**November 2008:**

Brainstorm new names to designate our service styles.

**February 2009:**

Review/re-vision Missy's job description in light of faith formation conversations.

**April 2009**

- 1) Planning for Annual Meeting: worship plan, meeting style, location and advertizing – task assigned – see above.
- 2) Letter/notice to congregation of Annual Meeting week of April 13 to include stewardship kick-off materials and constitution conformity recommendations.