

**First English Lutheran Church
Congregation Council Meeting
North Site – October 27, 2009**

Present: Mike Lokensgard, Ellen Evensen, Jeff Picken, Amy Henderson, Jeff Diehl, Kathy Larson, Dong Pham, Gordy Jeppson, Dan Baumbach, Dana Olson, Mark DesRochers, John Zweig, Dean Haas, Pastor Bauer and Pastor Dismer

Excused: Steve Uslabar

Guests: Jeff Bemis, Kathy Hoffman, Lance Schmidt, Terry Maves

I. Devotions: Mike Lokensgard

II. Approval of Minutes. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2009 Congregation Council meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Ministry Team Reports. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Ministry Team Reports as printed. Motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report. John Zweig gave a verbal Treasurer's Report stating that YTD September giving was at 62%. Diane Putzer and Brenda Smongeski were in the process of reconciling the Trust accounts (fiscal year ended September 30th.) Accounts previously approved by the Council have been opened and funds were being transferred. Balance Sheets will be clarified. Spending has been holding the line. End of Year gifts will be encouraged. Since Steve Uslabar's Treasurer's Report did not get distributed to the full Council, it will be forwarded to members by email after the meeting.

V. Executive Committee Report. Meeting minutes from October 20, 2009 were presented as written.

VI. Pastors' Reports. Pastors submitted written reports. Rev. Dick Schroeder will be assisting in the short term during Karen Herbrich's leave.

VII. Old Business.

A. Report/Update on ongoing issues.

1. Personnel Matters. Work in progress.
2. Sexuality Resolutions. Other meetings will be scheduled to allow the discussion to continue.

B. Task Force Updates.

1. No update.

C. Capital Campaign follow-up.

1. No update.

D. Council officer nominations and elections/Nominating Committee.

1. Work in progress.

VIII. New Business.

- A. ECHOES presentation. Jeff Bemis made a presentation to update the Council on Echoes; to request that as part of the 2010 budget, monies raised over the expenses of ECHOES be dedicated to benevolence, preferably local non-profits; and in the future to consider the proposal that ECHOES be established as a separate entity and apply for 501C3 non-profit status. The Council agreed that it would use the 2010 budget as a way to define the use of excess "profits" from ECHOES.
- B. Call Committee Selection. A motion was made and seconded to choose a minimum of eight (8) adults and two (2) youth for a total of ten (10) members of the call committee. Motion carried with 2 dissenting votes. The following adult members were selected by majority vote: Gail Detjen, Aaron Douglas, Joy Hagen, Lori Hartz, Dayton Henderson, Doug Moard, Jack Swanson, Sara Van Beek, and Mary Vandenberg. Andy Moscinski recommended four pair of youth for possible membership and the Council delegated Ellen Evensen to contact them regarding willingness to serve and make a final decision.
- C. Special Council Meeting. The Bishop asked to meet with the Council on Wednesday, November 4th at 6:30 pm. All council members were asked to make a special effort to attend.
- D. Official Acts. A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 2009 Official Acts. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. Adjourn: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Closing Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

Submitted by: Amy Henderson

Focus for September/October

- Weddings: Continue discussion with Emily Larson re wedding protocols
- Wednesday worship: Sharing preaching/presiding duties, helping to arrange special speakers-Bread for the World contact, Beth Lepinski will speak Nov. 4th.
- Confirmation: teaching large group for 10 Commandments.
- NS worship: Used Melissa Moll's 9:15 service as a template in creating the worship service for October 18th at the North Site. Worked with Bob Whitton and myself to create timeline for decisions about worship in order to make creating Media presentation easier. Have almost completed a printed form of the music for the North Site Liturgy to help visitors and new members in singing along
- NS task force: On October 6, the task force met with Joy Mortenson-Wiebe, the associate of the Bishop, to compile information.
- Worked with Pastor Dismer and Melissa Moll to decide on the liturgical choices for Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, and the Christmas Eve services.
- Have 5-8 participating in the noon Bible Study on the minor prophetic books. We will go on to Matthew soon.
- Implemented an onsite staff retreat with Pastor Dismer. We were able to discuss frustrations and future hopes. We will continue this discussion soon.

Focus for October/November

- Confirmation: continue teaching series on the 10 Commandments for large group time (7:00 to 7:20)
- NS task force: Review information. Emilie Larson will compile and send a document giving specific results to their corresponding ministry team. Then that ministry will be able to use the information as they desire. Sara VanBeek will compile a list of suggestions from the task force to the council. These two documents will be the topic of discussion during the next meeting of the task force (November 3rd). Joy Mortenson-Wiebe will be in attendance. We plan on finishing the business of the task force and having a celebration on November 17th.
- NS Worship: Print copies of NS liturgy.

Council report for October, 2009 - Pastor Mike Dismer

October

- three weddings
- helped with Pastor Mary to plan and lead a mini-retreat for our staff members
- Bishop's Theological Conference (thanks to the synod office for the scholarship I received)
- small group leader for 9th grade confirmation
- helped lead the retired pastors' and spouses' retreat at Pine Lake Camp
- planning for worship for time up to Christmas
- Crossways outdoor ministry task force on the future
- helped line up stewardship presenters for the three Sundays of stewardship emphasis for the downtown worship
- helped Jack Swanson prepare to preach on 1 November

Nov

- more training with high school students to visit shut ins
- more training with high school students to be worship assistants
- help with pre-marital counseling session with Wes Johnson
- continuing planning for worship up to and including Christmas
- Thanksgiving with family in Washington DC

Many thanks for your willingness to be a leader at FELC.

OFFICIAL ACTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2009

Weddings for the month of September, 2009

Ashley Golz and Ross Miller
Holly Kuepper and Jeremy Kelly
Michelle Mork and Chad Pierrard

Baptisms for the month of September, 2009

Samuel Benter
Brynlee Landon
Mason Scheberl
Addison Scheberl
Gabriella Conlon
Hattie Moscinski
Sam Landsverk

Funerals for the month of September, 2009

none

First English Lutheran Church
Executive Committee Meeting Summary: October 20, 2009

Present: Mike Lokensgard, Ellen Evensen, John Zweig, and Amy Henderson

Call Committee - The Executive Committee met to discuss the process Council should use to select individuals from those nominated for the call committee. Council members will be given the opportunity to vote for individuals at the next meeting. Assignments were made to contact this week those nominees who were listed as not being consulted to determine their willingness to serve.

DT Music Director – After meeting with Melissa Mohl and Barry Hoff, John Zweig presented the Executive Committee with a draft contract for the Director of Music position. The contract uses the AGO (American Guild of Organists) contract as a model. Mike Lokensgard will read through the draft to make final edits and the Executive Committee plans to endorse.

ELCA Human Sexuality Social Statement – The Executive Committee will schedule a meeting with the Pastors to discuss their perspectives on this issue and help determine how it affects their personal ministries at FELC. After that meeting, we will ask the Bishop or Bishop's associate to facilitate more discussion with the Council, Call Committee and Pastors as this issue relates to the call process.

Submitted by: Amy Henderson, secretary