

January 17, 2012 Council Report

Council President Bonnie Ehrke opened the meeting a little after 6 p.m. Present: Bonnie, Steve Wagner, Jaime Lewellin, Kristen Lien, Karen Hayes, Peggy Luther, and Dave Reese representing the Call Committee. Absent: Kurt Klemp and Interim Pastor Margo. (It was previously determined that the meeting time would be bumped up to 6 p.m. and that call committee information would be discussed first, with the regular council meeting to resume at approx. 8:30 p.m. As such, Interim Pastor Margo Martens would not need to be present at this council meeting.)

OPENING DEVOTION & PRAYER: Bonnie's devotion was taken from Exodus 18. Jethro, the father-in-law of Moses, saw how much time Moses spent settling disputes of the Israelites and advised Moses to appoint trustworthy judges to settle lesser disagreements. Coincidentally, the daily devotional for Jan. 17 also focused on surrounding ourselves with people eager to listen and willing to accept and/or give help. This devotion rang very true for council and call committee members who have had a busy twelve months.

CALL COMMITTEE: Dave Reese, on behalf of the entire call committee, gave a recommendation that we consider calling a wife & husband team from Detroit that will **share EKLC's single pastor position**. A visit was made to Detroit last Fall to hear sermons given by both of them; subsequent communications leads the call committee to believe that they would be "a good fit", acknowledging that there would be both positives and negatives to co-pastoring, but because both individuals seem to be such good partners, it would not be too hard to find the good management of the "in-between". Dave Reese left at 7:10 and the council resumed discussion, making it clear that if our congregation makes the decision to extend the call to them, we would be getting two people but not two full-time pastors. At 7:30 the council moved into the church office for a teleconference with the candidate(s). Of interest to the council were the answers to these questions: What attracts you to our call? A: "EKLC's desire to grow multi-generational and your mission statement." Q: How do you see a partnership working? A: "We each have strengths in ministry and would prefer to spell out which of us will do specific things." Q: How do you see yourselves working with council? A: "We are a team and we can work together with the congregation and council as a team; we are all going to be in this together. We both will be at worship and attend council meetings." Q: How do you foresee the transition? A: "It's all transition in the beginning, balancing between „let's get going" and „let's listen first for a direction we're led to". We're both strong leaders and we're both listeners."

The conference call ended at 8:03 p.m. and the council meeting resumed. After further discussion, a motion was made by Steve and seconded by Jaime, to accept the recommendation of the call committee to extend a call to the wife/husband team of Kirstin Tannas & Troy Jacobson of Detroit, Michigan. It is the council's intention to bring this recommendation to the congregation during the January 22, 2012 Annual Meeting as "New Business". Discussion immediately moved to compensation packages: one package with a housing allowance, and a second package if they choose to utilize the parsonage. We ended call committee business at 9:25 and moved on to the regular monthly agenda.

FINANCIAL REPORTS / CONSENT AGENDA: Motion made by Kristen, seconded by Jaime, to approve all reports contingent upon minor revisions to the December Council Report.

OLD BUSINESS: Should we continue to send out welcome letters to people who move into the area; we pay *d2design* \$7.50/month for this. It was decided to continue with this service at least until we get a new pastor. Peggy updated the council on *ATC*; it's likely that we will discuss this at the annual meeting. *Website management:* discussed an option for a cheaper way to maintain it/having a "media" committee to take photos/get release info., then tabled this topic for a future date. A better procedure for *locking up after worship* was also tabled for another month. Council duties during the upcoming *Annual Meeting* were discussed. Also, a *letter to the congregation* will go out maybe tomorrow (Jan. 18) to give members an early heads-up for the New Business of calling a pastor to East Koshkonong.

NEW BUSINESS: Future addresses of council members will be removed from *monthly newsletter* for security reasons. Tabled discussion until next month on *parsonage rental agreement* which expires 2-29-12. *Reps needed for annual LEAD conference* in March and *Synod Assembly* in May. Need for *motion sensors* in the downstairs bathrooms discussed.

There being no other business, we adjourned at 10:08 p.m. and closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Peggy Luther