

Good Samaritan Lutheran Church 2012 Annual Meeting

- Devotions by Pastors Ray and Beth.
- Call to order at 1:05 p.m. by Rose Woodruff.
- Earl Drake moved to accept the agenda. Jessica Kamala-Mushala seconded. Motion carried.
- Mark Steiner moved to approve the minutes from the 2011 Annual Meeting. Earl Drake seconded. Motion carried.
- **President's Report:**
President Rose Woodruff highlighted the main items she wrote about. Rose spoke about how she has been thankful to God for all that God has blessed us with this past year (Parker-Fengs are ready to join as members; Jeremiah is ready to be baptized; blessings of pastoral needs being met through covenant with Lutheran Campus Ministries (LCM) with Pastors Beth Platz and Ray Ranker.) Rose says we are in the best financial shape of the past 3 years. Karol Taylor thanked Rose for her commitment to GSLC above and beyond what anyone could expect.
- **Treasurer's Report:**
Presented by Treasurer Ariel Henry and computer supported by Jean Clemmer; written report included. Noted was that we have only 2 major bills to continue paying off (Pastor Tom's pension, and repayment of loan from Jean Clemmer who helped Good Sam stay current on mortgage payments.) The amount of the WOC grant was left out of the written report, \$350.00 (page 13.) Also, for the other line amounts on page 13, assets, should be moved down a line to accommodate the addition of the grant amount.
- Mark Steiner moved to accept as amended the President's Report and the Treasurer's Report. Donna Wilson seconded. Motion carried.
- There was no old business.
- **Committee reports:**
Worship and Music: Mark Steiner thanked Pastor Platz for providing help keeping worship going well.
- **Mutual Ministry:**
Jessica Kamala-Mushala said we need more members on the committee, but have had it easy since there were no complaints. For anyone wishing to volunteer, talk to a council member.

- Rental Committee:
The committee has not pulled together this past year. Rose reported rentals went very well and brought in \$50,000 through our long-term rentals to Whiz Kidz and the congregations. Whiz Kidz has fallen behind and had financial issues of their own, which is making Council consider what relationship to have with Whiz Kidz in the near future. Short-term rentals have been mostly baby showers and birthday parties with lots of food and music and lots of sugary drinks which, combined with high heels, have damaged our floor a bit. We are also waiting for a rental to fix the ruts in the yard caused by a U-Haul truck. Rose states that we need a sexton and could charge a fee to rentals to cover the cost; we do not have enough volunteers to cover the rentals now. This is an action item for the new Council.
- Property:
Patty Skewes referred to the written report; all work has been done by volunteers except for the roof work and the heater work. Patty commended volunteers for doing the major amount of work that was accomplished. Amos Mushala said we have put a lot of items on the back burner until our finances improve. Rose mentioned that Dave Skewes has put in a lot of hours doing the yard work, and the congregation sends thanks to him through Patty.
- Social Ministry:
Written report included. Melissa Steiner thanked the congregation for the outreach that has been done in places near and far even through tough times.
- Luella moved to accept the committee reports. Earl Drake seconded. Motion carried.
- New Business:

Selecting Options for Further Consideration: Options had been presented at 1/29/12 Next Step Discussion, today to be narrowed down to 3 options. (Included with written report.)

The options are:

1. Do nothing differently
2. Disband
3. Merger
4. Consolidation
5. Yoke
6. 2 year internship
7. Synod administration
8. Sell the building
9. Embrace a business model

Option 1: We would have to work with synod and check in with them about how we are doing. It would cost about \$500 a week for someone to cover pastoral care. We will need to check with and follow synod guidelines for both pastoral coverage and musician coverage. Judy Marvel has told Pastor Beth that Judy will work with Kathy Hunt and her connections to help the congregation find musicians once we

know what options we go with. There was a question about combining options 1 and 9; it was decided that the options are different so will not be combined.

- Option 2:** The congregation is responsible for taking care of obligations of debt, etc. and closing; Council and the Congregation would be responsible for making decisions about how any money would be spent after liquidation.
- Option 3:** Merger means both congregations would choose to close and start anew together; both properties would be sold; a new identity would be established.
- Option 4:** Consolidation is when one congregation is absorbed into another; the identity of one is kept, and assets are combined. One congregation cannot decide for another but synod would help in the combined grouping.
- Option 5:** Yoking is a shared pastor and council. Congregations retain their own membership rosters and properties. There would be no change of names, unless the groups decided to do so.
- Option 6:** Two year internship focuses on redevelopment of the congregation into something new that fits the needs of the community better, and requires someone to be in place to lead the internship (through Synod.) An example would be a large community of retirees, and the congregation would be focused around programs and worship experiences that fit the group of retirees. The existing congregation would have to be behind this ministry and not be fighting the intern trying to start the new ministry. There would also be an oversight of the intern, and the intern is in a full paid position (housing, medical costs, travel costs of seminary oversight, and salary.)
- Option 7:** Basically the keys are handed over and the Synod becomes responsible for everything. Synod involves the members of the congregation, but is ultimately responsible for the decisions.
- Option 8:** Building is sold and a rental space obtained to stay together for worship.
- Option 9:** The congregation hires a property manager to handle building rentals, possibly even renting the parsonage and we continue as is until we can afford a full-time pastor or cannot manage the volunteers to be a worshipping congregation.
- Option 10:** This is added to our choices so that if we want to combine some of the options, we list it as number 10 and list the options we want to have combined.

Each participant is given a chance to vote for 3 options to narrow the options down for Council to work with.

Pastor Ray and Pastor Beth counted votes for the options. First: Option 5, to yoke (20 votes); second: Option 10, combination of Options 1 and 9 (10 votes); third: Option 6, a 2-year internship (9 votes.)

Tallies for the other options were as follows: Option 2, to disband, 8 votes; Option 3, to merge, 7 votes; Options 1, to do nothing differently; 4, to consolidate; and 9, to embrace a business model, each with 5 votes; Option 7, for Synod Administration, 3 votes; and Option 8, to sell the building, 1 vote.

This information will be shared with Bishop Graham and Pastor Phil Hirsch.

- Nominating Committee:

Karol Taylor presented the slate as:

Karol Taylor, Vice President
Melissa Steiner, Secretary
Patty Skewes, 1 year at-large
Randy Springer, 2 year at-large

Other nominations for Vice President: None offered. Melissa moved to close nominations. Randy seconded.

Approved by acclamation.

Other nominations for Secretary: None offered. Donna Wilson moved to close nominations; Karol seconded.

Approved by acclamation.

Other nominations for 1 year at-large: Jean Clemmer nominated herself. Melissa moved to close nominations. Karol seconded. Motion carried. Patty Skewes won the vote for the position of 1 year at-large.

Two 2-year at large positions needed: Jean Clemmer was nominated, declined. Donna Wilson was nominated, Randy Springer seconded; Donna accepted the nomination. Randy Springer was on the slate from the nomination committee. Joe Fezie was nominated and declined. Mark Steiner moved to close nominations. Amos Mushala seconded. Motion carried. Randy Springer and Donna Wilson were voted in by acclamation.

Election of 2012 Nominating Committee: The committee is to be made up of 2 people who are coming off Council and 2 people from the floor: Rose Woodruff volunteered, Joe Fezie volunteered. Karol moved to close nominations, Randy seconded. Motion carried. Council will decide later who the 2 members coming off Council will be to serve on the committee.

- Approval of Proposed 2012 GSLC Budget:

There is a mistake on the line in the written report for the Total for Education; it should read \$290. The six-month budget is based on the second half of 2011 plus 2% increase in utility costs. Lines 609 and 611 are based on annual costs. A motion was made to change line 609 to \$2800 by Donna Wilson and seconded by Joe Fezie. Amendment approved. Line 611 includes paying back the loan that Jean Clemmer made to us for mortgage. Comment by Mark Steiner: the budget is only for 6 months; he reminded us that we only spend money as it is available, even if it is differently listed in the budget. Note: Line 202 Supply Pastor includes the payments made to LCM for pastoral care; Line 702 is the amount we are paying on Pastor Tom's pension (back payments.) Patty Skewes mentioned that the amount brought in from 2011 through long-term rentals and donations through the congregation was insufficient to cover the expected budget for 2012. Karol Taylor mentioned that Line 509 for our Seminarian Scholarship is something that she feels is important to keep funded because we have committed. Norma Hetrick moved to accept the budget as amended and Patty Skewes seconded. Budget approved as amended.

Rental Committee: Amos Mushala moved to allow Council to enter into a contractual arrangement for an event coordinator for rentals. The motion was seconded by Jessica Kamala-Mushala. (This is to be covered through a fee charged to the rentals.) Motion carried.

Mutual Ministry Committee: Rose suggested that we table the action to increase the committee members at this time. It was agreed to by the congregation.

Pastors Ray and Beth were thanked for their tremendous help in our transitional period.

Karol Taylor moved to adjourn at 3:15 p.m. and Jessica Kamala-Mushala seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa A. Steiner
Acting Secretary