

**St. Matthew's Quarterly Congregational Meeting**  
**January 31, 2007**

The meeting was called to order by Don Weltzien and opened with devotion by Pastor Schroeder.

The members in attendance are listed on a separate page attached to these minutes.

**Minutes:** The reading of the minutes from the October 2006 meeting was tabled until April.

**Additions to the Agenda:** Rooted in Christ, member and non-member school fees.

**Membership Changes:**

A motion was made, seconded and carried to receive by transfer, by profession of faith, and by adult confirmation the individuals listed on a separate page attached to these minutes.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to dismiss by transfer, by release and by removal the individuals listed on a separate page attached to these minutes.

David Schmeling, Matt Neuman, Toby Brandenstein, John Gnewuch, and Mike Gnewuch were received as new voting members.

Pastor Ewert attended to present the congregation with the list of candidates for the call for a pastor to replace Pastor Schroeder upon his retirement at the end of July this year. After discussing all the candidates there were two votes taken to narrow the field after which there was a motion made and seconded for the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for Pastor Jonathan Schultz. Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business:**

The church council recommends that we approve the following recommendations of the Ministry/Finance Committee:

- a) That staff is made up of two pastors and a business administrator.
- b) That compensation of the business administrator be based on Synod scale or less taking into account years of experience and education.
- c) That the congregation authorize the Committee to continue the interview and selection process with final approval by the Church Council. At present three applicants have been interviewed and three more individuals are waiting to be interviewed.

All of these recommendations were discussed at length and several suggestions were made. There were motions made and seconded regarding each individual recommendation to approve such recommendation as presented. All motions were carried. "Thank you"'s were extended to both individual committees and the combined committee for all of their hard work over the last year.

There was a motion made and seconded to formally accept Pastor Rothe's resignation. Ron Hahm reminds all of us that no one really knows what happened in the Rothe household so no one should be spreading rumors or innuendo about what caused the situations that led up to the resignation. Motion carried. The Council is recommending that Pastor Rothe's pay and pension

be in effect January 31, 2007. Insurance gets paid in advance so the February payment was paid before Pastor announced his resignation. The Council would like authorization to talk to the Rothe's to make sure they have some sort of insurance in place, either Cobra or something else, after February 28<sup>th</sup> and then decide what should be done. There was a motion made and seconded to accept both Council recommendations pertaining to pay, pension and insurance. Motion carried.

Bill Neubauer (of the Financial Resource Committee) presented the current figures regarding the funds in Rooted in Christ. Total commitments for the three-year program were \$ 1,085,813 of which \$ 673,213 has been received to date. Total balance in the Memorial Trust Fund currently stands at \$ 857,507. The committee is up and running and will be working on keeping the drive alive.

#### **New Business:**

There was a motion made and seconded that beginning February 1, 2007, 100% of the 2007 pastoral income that Rev. Wayne Schneider receives from us for preaching and other pastoral help be designated as a parsonage allowance under the provisions of Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code. Motion carried.

The Board of Education and the Church Council recommend that member and non-member fees remain the same for the 2007-2008 school year as they are presently. There was a motion made and seconded to approve the recommendation. Motion carried.

#### **Reports:**

##### **Financial Secretary:**

It was pointed out that we currently no outstanding debt. It was suggested that whatever members have been giving to debt retirement now be given to the unified budget so that we don't have to borrow. There was a motion made and seconded to accept the Financial Secretary's report. Motion carried.

##### **Treasurer:**

There was a motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

##### **Board of Education:**

The Board is working on the Ministry Plan and presently looking into the staffing needs of the school.

##### **Board of Elders:**

The Board continues to work with both Rothe's. The full-court press member visits are on going. Thanks for all the help they are receiving in this effort. The Board is encouraging attendance in Bible Studies.

##### **Board of Outreach:**

The Board is working on a mailing campaign promoting the educational opportunities here at St. Matthew's sent to the community at large. This should be going out sometime towards the end of February. They are also working on joint project with the Board of Stewardship on trying to identify all of the various resources that are available here and communicate this to the community.

##### **Board of Stewardship:**

One of the things the Board is focusing on is non-members attending our church and programs that can be established to make them feel welcome and try to get their commitment to become members.

Thrivent will be back in action by February 11<sup>th</sup>. All the new forms should be in place by that time and the Board should be able to get everyone up to date on matching gifts.

**Board of Trustees:**

The Board is continuing to work on their project list. There will be a work/clean-up day coordinated with the Ladies Guild scheduled for March 31<sup>st</sup>. Help will be needed. We are waiting on another quote to repair the small bare spot of carpeting in church where the one pew was removed and also repairing the carpeting in the narthex and fireside room.

**Officers:**

No report

**Synod Communicator:**

Of February 17<sup>th</sup> the Ministry on Christian Giving will be having a leadership seminar at Luther Prep in Watertown from 10:00am to 2:00pm. The program is designed to encourage present church leaders but more importantly train anyone who feels they would like step into a leadership role in the future. There is no cost involved.

**Memorial Trust Fund:**

It was pointed out that the general trust fund had a yield of 8.34% last year and the Charitable Remainder Trust yielded 9.9%. There was a motion made and seconded to approve the Report as presented. Motion carried.

**Lakeside Delegate:**

No report.

**Pastors:**

See page 25 of the Annual Report for a summary of where our contributions go locally and at synod level.

**Mr. Ziel:**

Enrollment is at 149. Continue to have eight full-time teachers, three part-time teachers, and our new teacher, Mrs. Laura Lai, who is working out very well in our pre-K program. We continue to investigate whether the parsonage could be remodeled to make it feasible to be used as a facility for 3-yr old pre-school and/or after school child care. Of course if the parsonage is needed for whomever accepts our call as pastor that would have priority over anything else.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Rik Krahn, Secretary

