

**St. Matthew's Special Congregational Meeting
September 30, 2007**

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

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and get approval to conduct a Major Maintenance Program. Don gave a brief history of FIC/FIO, which led into Rooted in Christ. That appeal program ends at the end of this year and the question is 'what next?'. Many maintenance items have been put aside while we concentrated our efforts and funds on the new school. These items can no longer be put off.

1. New roofs on the school gym and school proper and the church - \$125,000
2. Replace the carpeting in the church due to backing separating causing rippling - \$30,000
3. Replace the organ which no longer has circuit boards available for repair and whose speakers are broken - \$50,000
4. Replace the church dimmer system which is unusable and causes circuit breakers to trip during services - \$30,000
5. Repave the church/school parking lot and stripe it - \$55,000
6. Repair the church elevator and/or install a ramp so that our disabled members and guests don't have to fear being locked in the elevator - \$10,000

If we went ahead and started a new fund appeal for the new school, there would not be funds available to make needed repairs on the present facility. Therefore the resolution that the council recommends the congregation approve is as follows;

Conduct an appeal for Major Maintenance to fund the repair of the items listed above
Run the appeal ourselves without the cost of a fundraiser
Tie the Stewardship Committee into this appeal
Conduct this appeal in the entirety, without members specifying gifts to a particular item on the list

There were several questions raised during the conversation.

Will there be an organ committee formed to determine our needs and decide what fits into our budget? Yes there will.

Do all commitments need to be received before any work is done? No, items will be done as funds are collected.

Are the items prioritized in any kind of order? Not right now, other than the roofs should be done first due to the current state of deterioration.

What if an item costs more than the amount listed above? These numbers are approximations only. Many estimates have been obtained and the numbers above are about in the middle of the estimates. Actual costs will have to be determined at the time the work is ready to be done. What the council is seeking tonight is approval of the concept of the appeal not each individual task.

What if more funds are received than is needed to make all of the above repairs? As a result of this question, two amendments were made to the above resolution;

Establish an ongoing Maintenance Fund of \$\$\$
Any funds in excess of this appeal would be added to the Rooted in Christ program

During the conversations, George reported that he had an appraisal done on the property and the buildings were appraised at \$5.6 million for replacement cost and the useful life of the buildings showed only 25% has been used up which leaves \$4.4 million of useful life left.

It was suggested that the dimmer system really may not be needed and better lighting in the church would be a better use of our resources.

There was a motion made and seconded to approve the resolution as presented and amended. The amount of funds put into the new Maintenance Fund will be determined at a later time. Motion carried.

Pastor Schultz closed the meeting with a prayer and leading the members in a hymn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rik Krahn, Secretary