

NOTE: The format of these minutes may be a little off as Greg Ogden volunteered to take the minutes partway through the meeting.

Attendees: (“*” Denotes council member) Pete Pederson*, Mary Anderson*, Pastor Kate*, Bill Boltz*, Reggie Drout*, Charles Durrenberger*, Lyneen Elmore*, Jack Foote*, Terri Lappin*, Greg Ogden*, Rhonda Karrer (Academy Director) and Jennifer Randle (Treasurer).

The meeting was called to order around 7:00 pm by Pete Pederson

Pastor Kate led the opening devotional as well as a team building exercise where everyone introduced them and talked about their goals/interests of serving on Council

Pete suggested that in future meetings the council include Joys and Sorrows (explained below) as part of devotions. He made a motion to include 2 additional agenda items. This motion was moved, seconded and approved (MSA)

Old Business:

Minutes

Pete asked that Karen Johnson, the 2007 Council Secretary, be recognized for her efforts in providing the meeting minutes for Nov. and December to the Council and for completing an electronic compilation of the resolutions made in 2007. She is continuing to work to collect all the 2006 resolutions into a single document.

Charles recommended that at least in the beginning of the minutes, the full names of attendees be listed

PK asked that the minutes be included in the monthly Vistas to improve communication with the congregation. The Council discussed ideal ways of implementing this to prevent overwhelming readers with too-detailed minutes, minimizing costs etc. The council will continue to investigate this as well as options of providing a synopsis for the Vistas which references electronic versions on-line and/or in the Narthex.

A motion was made accept the minutes as read MSA

Budget

There was one question that was brought up at the congregational meeting by Herb Hanisch regarding raises. It was stipulated by the finance team and the council that staff be given a 3% raise. However, the budget included a 6% raise for Becky Peer and Greg Swanson.

[NOTE: in looking at the final budget here is what happened-I ‘hid’ a column in the spreadsheet for 2008 and copied it over, so there are 2 sets of “x1.03 and were based on

the 2007 actual estimate not the 2007 budget #... This was for the following positions: Admin Assistant, Music Director, Accompanist, and Nursery. It equates to an additional cost to the church of \$1400. It was not just for the 2 individuals]

Rhonda mentioned that she received a \$500 rebate check and wondered what to do with it as she was expecting the checks to arrive in August. The Council felt that we can leave it as is (spread 5K over 10 months vs. 5 months) at least until the next finance team meeting.

Jennifer got an email from Dorothy Pederson and reminded the council that the annual report is due by February 15th. There are new guidelines/suggestions from Synod regarding audits. The typical recommendation was that every 3 years the church utilizes an external auditor. Cost for this can be up to \$7500. The Bylaws instruct the Council to nominate an audit committee each year (internal) with assistance/training by Jennifer and Herb.

The suggested Synod procedures are much more involved and are structured to ensure it complies with IRS scrutiny and increased interest in investigating non-profit finances.

Lynneen will call the UA business school to ask about “interns” to help with the audit. Jennifer will ask her colleagues and the Synod regarding “church” swaps of audit teams for the external audits.

Liaisons to Synod Assembly

The Synod Assembly is scheduled for June 4-6 in Las Vegas. The church is supposed to send 2 lay people (male/female) and the pastor. As of the Council meeting, only 2 teams had signed up-Lori and Tony Bottello and Judy Eckhardt and Marshall Todd.

Pastor Kate gave a brief description of the ELCA structure including 66 synods, several regions and where BSLC fits (The Grand Canyon Synod includes AZ and NV to Las Vegas). She also described typical events and activities that occur at the assembly.

Terri and Reggie expressed interest in participating but declined for 2008. They are encouraged to act as BSLC reps next year.

PK indicated that the reps are normally elected at the congregational meeting as opposed to being “appointed” by Council and or the Pastor. We will work to operate in this manner next year.

A motion was made to accept Lori and Toni as the reps. MSA

Pastor's Report

Pastor provided a detailed list of her activities in December. She also provided information on pending pastoral events including continuing education and vacation

plans through July 2008. She stated that she intends to use her full allotment of vacation. She will find substitute pastors as needed and work with the worship team in this matter.

Motion to approve the Pastor’s report MSA

Pastor mentioned that she is in the office at lot and is encouraging the congregation to come and talk with her.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Elections

The following slate of Executive Council Members were nominated, voted on and approved for the 2008 Council

President	Bill Boltz
Vice President	Greg Ogden
Secretary	Terri Lappin
Member at Large	Charles Durrenberger

Meeting Nights

The council discussed potential meeting times and decided on the 3rd Monday each month-The next meeting will be 18th of February

Liaisons

The Council discussed the various ministry teams and grouped teams and selected the teams they wished to serve as Liaisons

Council Member	Ministry Team
Reggie Drout	Social Concerns
	Outreach
Pete Pederson	Youth
Jack Foote	Finance
	Personnel
Greg Ogden	Property/Memorial Garden
Lyneen Elmore	Worship
Charles Durrenberger	Education
Mary Anderson	Congregational Life
Council	Stewardship

Council Members are advised to contact their ministry teams and attend at least one meeting to meet the team members and introduce themselves.

Council Retreat

The council voted to hold the retreat on Feb 15/16. On the 15th, the retreat will be from 6-9 and from 9-3 on Saturday. Greg and Bill will help with food and Pastor will find a place to hold the retreat.

Synod Intern

The Synod and Berkley Seminary notified BSLC that the church has been selected to host an intern, Martha Strom. This is an ideal opportunity for BSLC as the intern would be paid by the Synod/Seminary and she currently lives in East Tucson (no housing costs). Pastor is interested and excited about this opportunity and is willing to serve as the Intern's Mentor. The Intern would preach 1/month as well as work on various projects/assignments. There would be various visits and training required (Pastor will pay for her training/travel as part of her education budget). There will be 2 site visits and 6 lay people will be asked to serve as an intern evaluation team.

One critical aspect of being able to accept this invitation to host the intern is that the church have a written sexual harassment policy. Bill has provided his company's policy and Kim Ogden is working to get a UA policy for review. This information will be used to develop a policy for BSLC. Pastor is working to finalize t his.

The motion to accept this invitation MSA-Pastor will accept the invitation

Shrove Tuesday/Lent Soup and Sandwich Suppers

Bill and Pete volunteered to flip pancakes at Shrove Tuesday.

The Council had an extensive conversation regarding coordinating the Lent Suppers. There have been many announcements in the bulletins requesting someone from the congregation step up and coordinate the event. To date (1/22) no one had done so. Pastor had instructed the staff not to coordinate as had been done in years past. The intent was to give a wake-up call to the congregation that church events need coordination and that the congregation needs to do its part.

Bill volunteered to call several members by Friday at 6:00 pm. The council agreed that if no-one stepped up from the congregation to coordinate the event by this weekend, the church would not hold the Suppers (nor Shrove Tuesday).

Joys and Sorrows

Pete described Joys and Sorrows, a quiet time where council members tell of positive/negative things currently going on in their lives.

Closing

Bill Boltz made the motion to close the meeting at 9:30 pm.

Pending Action Items

- Bill Boltz and Pete Pederson to call members of the congregation to recruit someone to coordinate the Lenten Soup and Suppers. This is to be completed by 6pm on Friday, January 26.
- Pastor will work with the Synod regarding accepting the Pastoral Intern invitation
- Pastor will work to develop a “work in progress” of the church’s sexual harassment policy
- Kim Ogden to provide a copy of a UA sexual harassment policy to BSLC
- The council will work to develop additional avenues of communication to the congregation through publishing minutes (or synopsis) in the vista’s and elsewhere
- Lyneen will call the UA to investigate the possibility of getting student auditors
- Jennifer to contact the Synod and her colleagues about audit team swaps
- Pastor to find a location for the Council Retreat
- Bill and Greg will coordinate food for the Retreat
- The Council will work together to serve dinner at Shrove Tuesday (if it occurs)

Respectfully submitted

Greg Ogden
Vice President elect