

**St. John's Lutheran Church
 Congregational Council
 November 13, 2007**

Present: Richard Bell, Amy Chance, Merritt Davis, Pr. Frank Espegren, Elizabeth Huber, Pr. Jose Luis la Torre, Leise Martinez, Heather Mercer, Ramona Moenter, George Niesl, Pr. Scot Sorensen

Excused: Leslie Dunsworth, Gregory Favre, Sharon Huckfeldt, Jim Kuhl

Guests: Spencer Gedestad, Helen Haakensen, Gordon Harris, Jan Hewitt, Barry Moenter, Angela Nickerson, Gwenn Raschefskey, Richard Snortland,

Merritt Davis called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.

Devotions: Led by Pr. Frank Espegren

Item	Discussion	Action / Outcome
Minutes	Minutes from the October 9, 2007 minutes were reviewed. Motion: Approve minutes as presented.	M/Bell; S/Sorensen Motion passed.
Treasurer's Report	<p>October Financial Report submitted by Treasurer Jim Kuhl via email:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating loss: for the month October in the amount of \$12,156; YTD loss \$81,108. Total revenue \$62,475, which was less than budget. • Expenses: \$75,768; higher than, but very close to the budgeted monthly average. • Building Fund Income: \$42,296 • Building Fund Expenses: \$515,364; \$512,135 of which was paid from the Mission Investment Fund (MIF) loan. The MIF payments total \$716,540. • Building Fund Equity: \$272,248 • Organ Fund balance: \$25,008 • Dedicated Accounts balance: \$469,709 • Operating Trust Fund: \$219,079 	<p>Report accepted.</p> <p>Follow-up on re-issued checks previously cancelled (originally noted in September financial report).</p>

Staff Reports

Item	Discussion	Action / Outcome
<p>Pastor Sorensen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered Sex Offender (RSO) Discovery: See New Business • Sacramento Conference Fall Assembly: Thursday, November 15th at 7:00 pm. Nominees will be selected for the 2009 church wide assembly and synod council, and the conversation will begin regarding potential bishop candidates. 	<p>Report accepted.</p>
<p>Pastor Espegren</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midtown Sacramento Property & Business Improvement District (PBID): Met with Kathi McShane of First United Methodist Church (also a member of PBID) in efforts to build relationships with the other downtown churches to join together in dealing with such issues as homelessness through PBID. • Second Saturday: The first two Second Saturday events have begun the outreach, including the Blessing of the Animals and a labyrinth walk. The December Advent Festival will be held on the second Saturday and will be opened to the public. 	<p>Report accepted.</p>
<p>Pastor la Torre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamale Day: Scheduled for December (date to be determined). Peruvian handicrafts will also be available for purchase. Funds will help the Latino Mission and the artisans in the church in Peru. <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: Approve December Tamale Day, date to be determined.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misa Hispana: Community participation is growing, with members from numerous countries, coming from all around the Sacramento area. • Guitar Circle: Every Wednesday, the Guitar Circle continues to rehearse. • Spanish Discipleship Classes: 8 people are registered in the adult Sunday school classes @ 9:30 am. First Communion classes will soon begin with the children. • Club del Libro: The book club will be re-started next year when more meeting space is available. 	<p>Report accepted.</p> <p>M/ Bell; S/Huber Motion passed.</p>

Committee Reports		
Item	Discussion	Action / Outcome
Evangelism Team	2008 Commissioning Mandate and 2007 Annual Report received.	Reports accepted.
Unfinished Business		
Item	Discussion	Action / Outcome
Audit Report	<p>The Finance Committee reviewed the audit letter received from Williams & Olds, and presented recommendations to the Council regarding the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recommend no independent audit of the 2007 calendar year due to budget constraints (Audit Committee will follow up on W&O findings); 2. Include a notice in annual giving statements, directing members' questions to the Audit Committee; 3. Starting with December 2007, leave accounting records open until all income & expenses (including interest) have been posted; 4. Development of procedures for the receipt of non-cash donations for staff to follow; 5. Payroll / 40 hours worked issue 	Action to be taken by the Council at the December meeting.
New Business		
Item	Discussion	Action / Outcome
Organ Subcommittee Presentation	Memo from Organ Subcommittee reviewed and discussed regarding Phase II of organ.	<p>Action Items: Organ Subcommittee to bring to Council's December meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of threshold of success for Phase II fundraising and outline of a feasibility study, including a draft communication to the existing organ fund donors; and • Correspondence from Bedient re: scheduling and possible completion of Phase II.

New Business (continued)		
Item	Discussion	Action / Outcome
RSO Action Steps & Covenant	<p>Pr. Scot reviewed staff's action steps upon discovery that one of our active members, Paul Jagoda, is a registered sex offender. Actions taken include but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. John's staff member notified a family close to Paul of his status. • Pr. Espegren contacted Synod office, Kyros Ministry, and Dr. Kibbie Ruth (resource specialists in this area); the result of which are the covenant between St. John's and Paul Jagoda and an action steps document. • Staff has reviewed Attorney General's office summary action of his case. • Staff has held conversations with Paul's probation officer. • Pr. Espegren has met with Paul, and Paul has agreed to and signed a covenant, which sets specific boundaries for his participation at St. John's. • A screened group of male escorts is being recruited and trained to accompany Paul at any time he is on the St. John's campus. • A complete review of the current "Child Abuse Prevention Policy" has begun, and proposed revisions will be brought to Council (anticipated completion Feb. 2008). • Separate meetings will be held for Sunday school teachers (11/18 @ 9:15 am) and all parents (11/18 @ 12:30) to share this information. 	Report accepted.
Annual Meeting Agenda & Date	<p>Suggested Annual Meeting date: January 27, 2008 @ 3:00 pm. January & February 2007 Congregational meeting minutes to be approved.</p> <p>Motion: Approve date & time of Annual Meeting.</p>	M/Chance; S/Bell Motion approved.
Announcements		
<p>Parents Meeting: Sunday, November 18 @ 12:30 pm Thanksgiving Day Worship: 10:00 am</p>		

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Mercer
Congregational Council Secretary