

**St. John's Lutheran Church  
 Congregational Council  
 September 11, 2007**

**Present:** Richard Bell, Amy Chance, Merritt Davis, Leslie Dunsworth, Pr. Frank Espegren, Gregory Favre, Elizabeth Huber, Sharon Huckfeldt, Jim Kuhl, Pr. Jose Luis la Torre, Leise Martinez, Heather Mercer, Ramona Moenter, Pr. Scot Sorensen

**Excused:** George Niesl

Merritt Davis called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**Devotions:** Led by Pr. Scot Sorensen: Dwelling in God's Word

Item	Discussion	Action / Outcome
<b>Minutes</b>	Minutes from the July 11, 2007 minutes were reviewed. <b>Motion:</b> Approve minutes as corrected.	M/Favre; S/Bell. Motion passed.
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	<p><b>August Financial Report</b> presented by Treasurer Jim Kuhl:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Operating loss</b> for August \$19,016; YTD \$85,826.</li> <li>• <b>Expenses</b> \$81K (including insurance, 2 months of SMUD for July &amp; August; and the required purchase of a new postage meter). Overall expenses 1% over budget YTD on average.</li> <li>• <b>Building Fund:</b> Expenditures \$145,441 higher than income, reducing Building Fund equity to \$280,109. \$500K CD was redeemed in August to pay the August construction payment of \$154,011.</li> <li>• <b>Organ Fund balance:</b> \$14,724</li> </ul> <p><b>Budget Review Update:</b>            Results of budget review include: limiting discretionary spending, and payment of the <i>Lutheran Magazine</i> subscription (\$6,000) by Memorial Funds to reduce the YTD operating loss.</p>	Report accepted.

## Staff Reports

Item	Discussion	Action / Outcome
<p><b>Pastor Sorensen</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sabbatical Summary:</b> Includes reading list</li> <li>• <b>Budget Planning:</b> Budget Committee begins working in mid-October. All committees, staff &amp; ministry teams are being asked to submit a proposed 2008 budget by October 15, 2007 to Pr. Scot or Jim Kuhl.</li> <li>• <b>FLOW Worship:</b> There were 60 people in worship for the inaugural night of this worship service!</li> </ul>	<p>Report accepted.</p>
<p><b>Pastor Espegren</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Worship:</b> The 8:00 am service liturgy has been adjusted to include more music; New liturgy is being introduced in the 9:15 and 11:30 services; and the new FLOW service on Sunday evening is off to a strong start.</li> <li>• <b>Service:</b> New leadership is in place for Family Promise – Dan and Lynda Maloney, and Peter Brostrom. St. John’s will not be hosting again until construction is completed in 2008.</li> <li>• <b>Midtown Business Partnership:</b> It has officially voted in as an assessment district. Pr. Frank will be talking to the leadership of the group to make sure we are visible, especially in areas of service to the poor.</li> </ul>	<p>Report accepted.</p>
<p><b>Pastor la Torre</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>First Communion:</b> Plans are in the works to start Spanish-speaking First Communion classes in October.</li> <li>• <b>Spanish Language Academy:</b> The next step to consider is an English class for Spanish speakers.</li> <li>• <b>Tamale Day:</b> Motion to hold a Tamale Day one Sunday in October (date to be determined).</li> </ul>	<p>Report accepted.</p> <p>M/Favre; S/Bell Motion passed.</p>
<p><b>Angela Nickerson</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Adult Education:</b> Due to limited meeting spaces, fewer Sunday morning classes have been offered. Classes currently scheduled include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Christian Caregiving</i>, led by our Parish Nurses</li> <li>- <i>10 Great Dates for Empty Nesters</i>, led by Patricia Miguel and her husband.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Sunday School:</b> 50 children were in attendance for the first week Sunday school, and 12 more attended on Sunday evening. This is record-setting attendance.</li> </ul>	<p>Report accepted.</p>

**Staff Reports (continued)**

Item	Discussion	Action / Outcome
<b>Steven Johnson</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Worship &amp; Music Committee:</b> Meeting was successful in that members of the committee are beginning to understand all of the various ministries which work together to make worship happen. A Yahoo Group is being established to maintain ongoing communication with all ministry leads.</li> <li>• <b>8:00 Service:</b> New liturgy has been implemented and now includes musical responses and handbells.</li> <li>• <b>9:15 Service:</b> Choir is beginning rehearsals this week for the new season.</li> <li>• <b>11:30 Service:</b> Group meeting was held to discuss rehearsal and Sunday morning routines to improve the flow of the service.</li> <li>• <b>FLOW:</b> This new service is a multi-media liturgical worship service that started last week, and is led by Darren Zinzer and many of the Confirmation musicians.</li> </ul>	Report accepted.

**Committee Reports**

<b>Social Ministry Committee</b>	Report submitted.	Report accepted.
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**Unfinished Business**

<b>Replacement Member for St. John's Trust Fund</b>	Gordon Harris nominated to fill vacant position.	M/Favre; S/Bell Motion passed.
<b>Community Easter Celebration – Memorial Auditorium in 2008</b>	<p>Discussion was held regarding holding Easter 2008 service at the Memorial Auditorium.</p> <p><b>Motion 1:</b> Hold Easter 2008 service at the Memorial Auditorium without utilizing Building Funds or General Funds.</p> <p><b>Motion 2:</b> Motion to allow Executive Committee to solicit not more than 25 members via letter to secure funds for the Easter celebration.</p>	<p>M/Favre; S/Bell Motion passed.</p> <p>M/Sorensen; S/Dunsworth Motion passed.</p>

<b>Unfinished Business (continued)</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action / Outcome</b>
<b>Midtown Association</b>	Motion to ratify email approval of the formation of the Midtown Association.	M/Pr. Frank; S/Favre Motion passed.
<b>Landscape Architecture</b>	Motion to ratify email approval for the hiring of Nancy Greenlee for landscape architecture.	M/Dunsworth; S/Favre Motion passed.
<b>New Business</b>		
<b>Stained Glass Window Banners</b>	Motion to request Memorial Funds be used to create 3 banners of the sanctuary's stained glass windows for Goethe Hall, and apply for Trust Funds to replenish Memorial Funds.	M/Favre; S/Bell Motion passed
<b>Fall Council Workday</b>	Saturday, October 13, 2007. 9:30 am – 3:00 pm.	Elizabeth Huber to research alternative meeting sites (CalEPA)
<b>Announcements</b>		
<b>Sanctuary Tours:</b> Docents are needed to conduct sanctuary tours on Sunday, September 23, 2007.		

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Mercer  
Congregational Council Secretary