

**Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Epiphany
Winston-Salem, North Carolina**

Mission Statement

*Epiphany is a welcoming community, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to share the GRACE of God,
the LOVE of Christ, and the HOPE of new life with all!*

Congregation Council Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Pastor Wind, Scott Armstrong, Zach Baker, Karl Florian, Paul Halvorson, Dave Hinshaw, Kathy Knecht, Melissa Maltzahn, Gretchen Pfitzner, Jim Pierson, Jeanie Saphar, Marc Shideler, Deni Thrasher, Carolyn Wiley

Guests: Cory Phillips, Santiago Saldaña, Charlene Wellborn

Devotions and Opening Prayer

Kathy Knecht called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, and members were given the opportunity to share their celebrations or concerns. Jeanie Saphar led our devotions and opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda:

Moved: Scott Armstrong

Second: Paul Halvorson

Motion was carried with the addition of Council Members being available to the congregation following worship in December in New Business

Reception of Minutes

Motion to approve October 20, 2014 minutes:

Moved: Jim Pierson

Second: Scott Armstrong

Motion was carried

Ministry Updates/Reports

- Endowment – Scott Armstrong reported that there is another meeting of this committee preceding the next Council meeting; it is a time to submit any requests.
- Worship – Jim Pierson reported that David Pillsbury has been working on the organ and hopefully we will have a status report next month.

Correspondence

- The following thank you notes were signed during the meeting.
 - o To Lisa Nichols and EECC for food bags for the pantry.
 - o To Scott Lichtenhan for managing our rental properties.
 - o To Bill Phipps for caring for the grounds around Epiphany.
 - o Lil Flichman for her commitment to Epiphany's Congregational Care ministry.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Laura's attached. Pastor Laura highlighted the upcoming Advent and Christmas worship and activity schedule. We spoke briefly about her attendance at the Women's Clergy Silent Retreat in early December, as well as the many funerals she has officiated recently.

Treasurer's Report/Financial Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report attached. Marc will write an article for the Star to update our current and proposed pledge and budget numbers.

Business in Process

- Audit Report – Marc is urging all council members to take a look at and bring comments/questions.
- Interim Pastoral Call – Kathy received an e-mail (attached) from Phil Tonnesen with some suggestions on how to proceed in seeking an interim pastor. Suggestion #2 seems to be our best option at this time, so we will need to request Synod help in identifying local candidates. We need to find a way to support Pastor Laura by getting support from within

the congregation. Kathy will contact Pr. Copeland with our decision to look at another option for our interim call to Epiphany.

New and Upcoming Business

- Matt Smith's Resignation – Matt has submitted his resignation in anticipation and approval of his pastoral call to Holly Grove Lutheran in Lexington, NC.

Motion: to accept the resignation, with regret and joy, of Matt Smith as Epiphany's Interim Director of Youth Faith Formation.

Moved: Scott Armstrong
Motion carried (2014-36)

Second: Zach Baker

- Special Offering Designations – Kathy and Pastor Laura provided a list of special offering designations for 2015. A suggestion was made to change the August 5 Sunday brunch recipient to Epiphany Responses to Hunger (food bags.)

Motion: to approve the list (attached) of Special Offering 2015 Designations with a change to the recipient of the Sunday, August 5, 2015 brunch.

Moved: Scott Armstrong
Motion carried (2014-37)

Second: Jim Pierson

- Kathy thought it would be a good idea for council members to be available on Sunday mornings after worship to answer any questions or comments that the congregation or visitors may have. It also helps with awareness and recognition of our congregational leaders. A sign-up sheet was passed around for availability.

FYI

- Staff reviews have been finished and placed in their personnel files.
- Advent worship services are set and council is asked to host dinner on December 3, 2015.
- The December council meeting will begin at 6:30pm for election of the 2015 council officers, and the regularly scheduled business meeting will begin at 7:00pm.
- Gretchen Pfitzner asked about the possibility of a piano recital in the sanctuary hosted by Katrina in December. This is a tentative event and may/may not happen, and the request was made for scheduling and facilities use purposes. The current facility guideline in our By-Laws designates the sanctuary for worship and church related (weddings & funerals) use only. However, exceptions have been made and with Council action, may be made again.

Motion: allow Katrina Pfitzner one-time use of Epiphany's sanctuary and piano for recital in December, without interference of Epiphany's activities.

Moved: Scott Armstrong
Motion carried (2014-38)

Second: Zach Baker

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting December 15, 2014.

Devotions and Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn:

Moved: Scott Armstrong
Motion: Carried

Second: Jim Pierson

Pastor Laura offered the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shelley Hood, Recording Secretary

Attachments:

Pastor's Report
Treasurer's Report
Summary of Motions, 2014