

**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**

April 20, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Zach Baker, Karl Florian, Dave Hinshaw, Kathy Knecht, Melissa Maltzahn, Gretchen Pfitzner, Cory Phillips, Jim Pierson, Santiago Saldaña, Jeanie Saphar, Marc Shideler, Charlene Wellborn, Carolyn Wiley

**Guests:** Pastor Phil Stringer, Ashley Woodard

**Devotions and Opening Prayer**

Kathy Knecht called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, and a call to prayer was spoken in unison. Karl Florian led our devotions and opening prayer, with participation from Ashley Woodard and Pastor Laura. All present were then invited to offer their celebrations and/or concerns.

**Approval of Agenda**

**Motion to approve agenda:**

**The motion included** an added request to use church facilities for a meeting on May 31.

Moved: Karl Florian

Second: Santiago Saldana

**Reception of Minutes**

**Motion to approve March 16, 2015 minutes**

Moved: Zach Baker

Second: Gretchen Pfitzner

Motion was carried with the 2015 Summary of Motions added during meeting

**Sharing the Word**

Pastor Laura shared her appreciation for the silent retreat that she attended, and for Ashley Woodard's assistance in attending to the details of a funeral service.

**Correspondence**

- The following thank you notes were signed during the meeting.
  - o Rachel Nicholson for the setup of the reading corner at Ibrahim Elementary.
  - o Mike Spain and the men's group for hosting the delicious Easter breakfast.
  - o Jeanie Saphar and Epiphany Ringers for the goodbye reception for Karen Brown.
  - o Lil Flichman for coordinating our final 2015 Wednesday Lenten dinner.
  - o Mickey Miller for her hard work and dedication as Epiphany's office administrator.

**Offering**

**Ministries**

- EECC – Charlene Wellborn reported that EECC thanks the Property Committee for their help with their cleanup. EECC earned proceeds of over \$1,000 from the yard sale. VBS will be a joint event with Parkway Presbyterian in 2015, with the date pending.
- Epiphany Builders – Rusty Fraser (a friend of Epiphany) was injured at Lutheridge during an event, and Jeanie Saphar accompanied him to the emergency room for treatment. A number of members feel that Epiphany needs to help with reimbursement of Rusty's deductible expenses. (Action to be taken at a later date.) Epiphany Builders is covered for damage or injury they cause others when working on their projects under Epiphany's liability insurance policy, but the builders themselves as volunteers are not covered for injuries. Kathy is asking that all functions that require liability releases be reviewed for insurance purposes, and to have the information and process for the releases updated. The Management Committee is reviewing these needs.
- Property Committee – Duke Energy developed a proposal about lighting costs. The total costs was \$581.16. Duke had a program to assist with the costs of \$289.08. This left Epiphany's cost at \$248.27 a number of 2x2 fluorescent fixtures in the hall way near EECC

and in bathrooms in the older part of the church. A member of the Council donated money for this expense. The estimated savings over 3 years is \$306.00.

**Mission Goals** – Responsibilities are: Zach Baker #1; Jeanie Saphar #2; Karl Florian & Gretchen Pfitzner #3; Melissa Maltzahn #4; and Charlene Wellborn #5.

**Membership Rolls** – We currently have 434 members of register. Kathy and Mickey sent gentle letters to 41 members asking for clarification of their intent to remain members of Epiphany. A June 1 response time was requested.

**Introduction of Ashley Woodard** – Ashley attended the council meeting as introduction to Council, though she is known to many at Epiphany. She feels very blessed and excited to be doing a job that she feels a strong commitment to, a capability and confidence to carry out, and to be in such a nurturing environment. Her excitement and enthusiasm was evident.

**MSP Development** – Santiago Saldana and Jim Pierson are working through the online MSP (Ministry Site Profile) application for the call process. The Council reviewed many of the points and answers of the questionnaire. Each member of council was asked to carefully review the document, and send a comment to Santiago for the final document, before sending to Synod. The Call Committee will need this document as part of their training materials. At this time, Sarah Lischer is the Call Committee contact person.

### **Requests –**

**#1** – Jean Darstein is hosting a shower at a park in Lewisville on May 3. She requested using the Fellowship Hall as a backup in case of a weather problem.

**Motion:** to allow Jean Darstein the use of the Fellowship Hall as a back-up on May 3 if the shower she is hosting has a weather problem.

**Moved: Jim Pierson                      Second: Zach Baker**

**Motion Carried (2015-06)**

**#2** – Mitzi McLean has requested use of the Fellowship Hall or Library on May 31 for a Training Session that she is leading for facilitators of a seminar scheduled in June. She has requested to use the space from 12:30-4:30. She was made aware that that Sunday is Senior Sunday, with a reception following worship which takes priority.

**Motion:** to allow use of the Fellowship Hall or Library for a HS Leadership Training, led by Mitzi McLean on May 31 from 12:30-4:30, without interference in church events.

**Moved: Jeanie Saphar                      Second: Santiago Saldana**

**Motion Carried (2015-07)**

**#3** – Bruce and Sue Lande's daughter has requested the installation of a birdhouse with chimes in the Memorial Garden. This was significant for their grandson Ryan. While Epiphany's guidelines do not allow for items in the garden itself, Lisa Nichols has a tree in a close location where it can be placed. Pastor Laura has offered this alternative with allowing a picture of Ryan and the birdhouse be taken in the garden.

**Motion:** to allow a picture to be taken in the Memorial Garden of Ryan, and a birdhouse with chimes which will then be placed in the EECC play area which is a close location to the memorial garden.

**Moved: Gretchen Pfitzner                      Second: Karl Florian**

**Motion Carried (2015-08)**

### **Treasurer's Report/Financial Secretary's Report**

Treasurer's Report attached. Kathy added that we may want to consider exploring a Capital Campaign for funding the large property maintenance proposals recently identified by the Property Committee. Cory Phillips and Jeanie Saphar offered to look into how to begin that process. Larry Grush and David Wellborn were suggested as resources.

### **Pastor's Report**

Pastor Laura shared a handout outlining pastoral coverage and worship information while she is hospitalized and recovering from surgery. She spent a few minutes talking about what she and

Ashley have accomplished in her VERY short time here (so far,) what events are being planned, and updated us on the "Hedge Hogs" group. She is thrilled at having another trusted staff member on board!

### **Reflections on Meeting**

The group felt that this was a very informative and productive meeting. It was a long meeting but a lot of business was handled.

### **Review Action Items for Next Meeting**

To have the Ministry Site Profile complete.

Council said a prayer of blessing over a vial of water, to represent Epiphany congregation, to be taken to Bishop Bolick's Godspeed Service in Salisbury on April 25. It will be used in a special font during worship.

Zach Baker will lead the next regularly scheduled Council meeting May 18, 2015, due to Kathy Knecht's absence at that time. Dave Hinshaw will lead devotions.

### **Devotions and Adjournment**

#### **Motion to Adjourn:**

**Moved:** Gretchen Pfitzner **Second:** Karl Florian

**Motion:** Carried

Pastor Laura offered the closing prayer, the Lord's Prayer was recited, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shelley Hood, Recording Secretary

Attachments:  
Treasurer's Report  
Summary of Motions, 2015