

**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**

May 18, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

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

**Absent:** Pastor Wind

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

**Devotions and Opening Prayer**

Zach Baker called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, and a call to prayer was spoken in unison. Dave Hinshaw led our devotions and opening prayer. All present were invited to offer their celebrations and/or concerns.

**Approval of Agenda**

**Motion to approve agenda:**

**The motion included** *an added request of Facilities Use discussion to Offering; and Organist Replacement discussion to New Business*

Moved: Jim Pierson

Second: Santiago Saldana

**Reception of Minutes**

**Motion to approve April 20, 2015 minutes** *with the noted correction of Pastor Laura's presence*

Moved: Santiago Saldana

Second: Zach Baker

Motion was carried

**Sharing the Word**

Nothing at this meeting.

**Offering**

- The following thank you notes were signed during the meeting:
  - o Karl Florian for his work with Duke Energy and their assessments of our building's lighting needs.
  - o The Ministry Site Profile Team for their work in completing the online profile as a step in the Call Process.
  - o Bill Phipps for working at Epiphany on the steeple, the cross and kings.
  - o Lil Flichman for coordinating the meals that were supplied for Pastor Laura.

**Share our Ministries:**

- EECC – Penny Latham Mothershed expressed the need to communicate the importance of EECC to the congregation, for growth and as part of the call process. Her opinion is that one way to meet that goal is to invite more of the EECC families to worship. July 7 is the annual site review. Lisa has also stated that EECC needs a new computer.
- Mission Goal Updates: #1- the organist position has been posted in several websites. There has been one interview, and we will put that in reserve; #2- We should again publish the most recent organizational chart representing our varied ministries, and who serves on each one. Deni Thrasher has resigned her Stewardship position; #4-Pastor Laura and Ashley are planning to meet with a rep at Synod office regarding how to move forward to encourage and engage members in Faith Formation; #5- Lisa Nichols is meeting with circles and sharing the events/activities of EECC.
- Discipleship – working on VBS.
- Endowment – they have received a grant application, and are waiting for more information.

- Council "Sunday Conversations" – there have been the following conversations/feedback: 1) a request about when the Call Committee would be prepared for nominations from the congregation; 2) a discussion primarily about communication and transparency with members about our staffing model process. What is our view on a 1- or 2-pastor church; 3) a question about how the prayer list is compiled for the weekly Star, who is or is not included during Sunday morning worship, and why; 4) a member expressed their hope that the Call process includes a pastor who is very people-oriented.
- Management Committee – they are beginning to create a waiver for volunteers who assist during church events. The document will be more for the volunteers' information/knowledge of their liabilities & responsibilities. There needs to be further discussion to cover more specific situations and how to document.
- Call Committee Update – There is a training scheduled for June 5 & 6 at Epiphany with Pastor Carla Lang.

**June 6, 2015 Work/Cleanup Day:** A cleanup day at Epiphany has been scheduled for the primary purpose of getting the basement more organized and rid of the unnecessary and unusable items in storage. A paper pickup for shredding has been scheduled, and the neighborhood large-item garbage day coincides with the cleanup and will be utilized. The neighbors around Epiphany will be notified about our workday, and hopefully we will be able to utilize some of their curbside hospitality.

**Facilities Use:** #1- Bruce Lande's musical group is asking to use the Fellowship Hall for some jam sessions; #2 – they are also asking about possibly having a "Sizzling Saturday" musical event for the community, at a cost. Majority of council feels that #2 is not appropriate, and could snowball into other requests as "money makers." This could cause a myriad of negative issues, and feel it would not be representative of Epiphany's ministry in the community. Discussion to be continued.

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

Treasurer's Report attached. Marc stated that Epiphany has a larger surplus than usual for this time of year, but expects a probable deficit for May. EECC was left with a deficit in April.

### **(Non) Pastor's Report** (Ashley Woodard)

- A greeter training is scheduled for May 19.
- A refresher training for acolytes is scheduled for May 26.
- An usher training is currently being planned to be put on the schedule.
- June 14 begins a "95 days of Summer" plan for congregational activities; Ashley and Pastor Laura are creating a logo that includes information about the planned events.
- VBS is at Parkway this year 6/22-6/26. (Epiphany is only attending, not planning.)
- July 14 is the National Youth Gathering in Detroit, MI.
- Ashley has planned a meeting with a sound technician to assess musical sound in the Sanctuary.
- Pastor Laura and Ashley are planning a 4-week, mid-week contemporary worship experience this summer. They will be held on Thursdays at 7:00pm. This will incorporate some liturgy and readings, Holy Communion, and a study theme.

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

Facilities Use Policy (ongoing)

### **Prayer and Adjournment**

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

**Moved:** Jim Pierson

**Second:** Karl Florian

**Motion:** Carried

Pastor Phil offered the closing prayer, the Lord's Prayer was recited, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shelley Hood, Recording Secretary

Attachments: Treasurer's Report  
Summary of Motions, 2015