

**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**

July 20, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

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

**Absent:** Dave Hinshaw, Charlene Wellborn, Pastor Wind

**Guests:** Pastor Phil Stringer

**Devotions and Opening Prayer**

Kathy Knecht called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, and a call to prayer was spoken in unison. Carolyn Wiley led our devotions.

**GATHERING**

All present were invited to offer their celebrations and/or concerns.

**Approval of Agenda**

**Motion to approve agenda** with addition of 1) organ cost accounts, and 2) Pensby property

Moved: Zach Baker

Second: Jim Pierson

Motion was carried

**Reception of Minutes**

**Motion to approve June 15, 2015 minutes**

Moved: Karl Florian

Second: Gretchen Pfitzner

Motion was carried

**OFFERING**

**Sharing our ministries**

Stewardship Cmte – Emily Phillips outlined information regarding our automated giving system to add credit card options to Simply Giving, as well as an additional website option for offerings/donations of any kind. There would be costs to some of these options.

#2) Jeanie is working with Stewardship, & Kay Conrad on a) updating a new ministries booklet and b) possible set-up of a user-friendly “organizational” chart for Epiphany’s web page. #1) Zach reported that while we have been contacted about the Music Director position, the applicant doesn’t play the organ. Pastor Wind will also handle a response to him.

**Correspondence**

The following thank you notes were signed and sent:

- Mark & Lynn Andersen for the participation at the 7/12 worship with music & organ.
- David Pillsbury for his extensive work on our organ.
- Al Baker for his contribution to the t-shirts for youth who attended the National Gathering.

**Business in Process**

7/12/15 Congregational Meeting: Kathy reviewed her understanding of the congregational vote about the sanctuary lighting project. Honeycutt Electric has been contacted and is moving ahead with ordering all necessary supplies. It is estimated that installation will be between 8/24 and 9/18. It is a 3-4 day process, and is not expected to impact worship or activities.

Organ needs: David Pillsbury has reported that the organ still needs approximately \$1,000 in improvements. We will be intentional about asking members of the congregation to contribute to the organ fund to cover those costs.

**New/Upcoming Business:**

Intentional Discipleship: Kathy provided council with a chart that outlines Pastor Laura’s vision of Epiphany members becoming “Intentional Disciples of Christ.” This chart shows how aspects of communication, service, and relationship throughout the membership culminate in a transformation to a more God-centered life, inside and outside the church.

Hearing Assistance Devices: we have recently needed more than the 3 hearing assistance devices for worship. We have had a suggestion/request that we purchase 2-3 more to avoid a shortage. After some research, we

could purchase from Amazon at an approximate cost of \$100 per unit. With these units we will also need to purchase headphones.

**Motion:** *After verification by Jim Pierson and Janet Blank regarding transmitters' capacity*, to purchase 2 hearing assistance devices for use in worship at a cost of approximately \$100 per unit, with funds to be used from the Undesignated Memorials fund.

**Moved:** Zach Baker

**Second:** Santiago Saldana

**Motion:** Carried (2015-13)

Bishop Eaton's letter – Council was given a copy of a letter from Bishop Eaton addressing the Supreme Court decision regarding same-gender couples' equal access to marriage. At this time we should read, and prepare to discuss our thoughts in this matter, and our position going forward as a Christian community. More discussion in September.

Security & Emergency – In light of the recent wave of violence throughout our country, and especially in churches closer to home, we find it necessary to discuss at the August meeting how we can be better prepared with security. Kathy will ask Gene Deal to share some of his perspective.

Call Committee Update – the committee is organizing information packets to be sent to possible candidates.

Their last meeting was June 29, and will meet again 7/22.

Upcoming Council Election – Kathy provided council with the 2015 schedule for nomination and election of council members, terms beginning in January 2016.

Pensby property – the property was vacated on July 10, with no rent payment for July. Scott Lichtenhan and Mike Spain have determined the necessary repairs, which include new appliances, painting and cleaning, and some window repairs/replacement. They feel these are necessary if Epiphany still expects to gain the same rent payment. Scott and Mike can also accomplish some of these repairs with minimum cost.

**Motion:** Request from the Executive Committee, for Mike Spain and Scott Lichtenhan to make needed repairs to the Pensby property, not to exceed \$4,000.

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

**Motion:** Carried (with one abstained) (2015-14)

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

Treasurer's Report attached. a) Both Epiphany and the EECC are in a surplus status as of June 2015. b) Marc reported that Larry Grush made a proposal to the committee regarding the building of a specific, larger fund for evangelical purposes to be identified later. He has approached a specific donor and he/she has requested advice regarding this plan. The Finance committee will offer more information after further discussion and clarification. c) Treasurer recommends, along with the Finance Committee, the entire cost of the sanctuary lighting project be charged to the Building Maintenance Hardware line in the general operating budget (56223.)

**Motion:** Finance Committee requests Council to follow the Treasurer's recommendation to pay sanctuary lighting costs out of the Building Maintenance Hardware line, #56223.

**Moved:** Santiago Saldana

**Second:** Jeanie Saphar

**Motion:** Carried (2015-15)

#### **Pastor's Report**

Provided.

#### **Reflections on Meeting**

It was felt that the meeting moved forward productively.

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

None at this time.

#### **Devotions and Adjournment**

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

**Moved:** Jim Pierson

**Second:** Gretchen Pfitzner

**Motion:** Carried

The Lord's Prayer was recited, Pastor Stringer offered the closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shelley Hood, Recording Secretary

Attachments: Treasurer's Report  
Summary of Motions, 2015  
Pastor's Report