

LITTLE HOME CHURCH BY THE WAYSIDE (LHC)
JUNUAL MEETING
JUNE 8, 2015

Moderator Susi Winquist called the Junual Meeting to order at 10:51 a.m. and interim Pastor David Russell opened the meeting with a prayer. There were 42 church members in attendance which constituted a quorum for the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes: Susi asked everyone to please review the Febural 2015 minutes. There were no questions, comments, or suggested corrections. Greg Hege moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mark Lesswing. All were in favor. Minutes were approved.

Pastor's Comments: Rev. Russell expressed his joy for being at the Little Home Church for the past year. He thanked Susi and the council for all of their help in getting through this year of change. He highlighted several positive items which have occurred throughout the past year such as an increase in 16 new members, an increase in attendance at church services, the establishment of a men's group, and the January mission trip to Biloxi. Most recently he has trained six group leaders who will lead small group meetings in people's homes. He also thanked the staff for their dedicated hard work throughout this difficult year.

Following his comments, Don Heinrich complimented Pastor David on his spirit, leadership, and professionalism in guiding our congregation during the past year. Other members agreed and applauded his efforts.

Outgoing Moderator's Comments: Susi Winquist reflected on the past year of change. She started as moderator on July 1st along with David Russell being our interim pastor. There were a lot questions and changes with Pastor Ron's departure which needed to be addressed such as when are we going to call a new pastor. She noted that with uncertainty, the church could have become stagnant but it has not. Our church continued to attract new members, formed a confirmation class, established a new group for men, and decided to do New Beginnings among other things.

Susi thanked the council for going above and beyond by doing much more than their ministries required. She also thanked Pastor David for his dedicated hard work and leadership.

Greg Hege and Anne Bouchard complimented Susi for the extra work that she needed to do for the New Beginnings Program, the final sale of the Dixon Property, the Search and Call committee and leading everyone through a time of transition. The congregation applauded her hard work.

New Beginnings Update: Phases 1, 2, and 3 of the New Beginnings assessment and internal discernment program have been completed. Most recently, facilitators led three groups through six hours of review of the NB assessment and discussion. They will meet June 18th to review and discuss the outcome of those meeting and to identify any common ideas.

Search and Call Update: Committee members Carol Berger and Anne Bouchard updated the congregation on its progress. The posting for a new pastor has been listed on the UCC website. At present, eight resumes have been received. In order to post the listing, the committee completed a 25 page church profile and met with Jonathan Knight of the UCC regional office to review the information. Council then approved the profile prior to the posting. When candidates apply, the UCC office performs background checks on every pastor wishing to place a resume on the UCC website. Some candidates ask to have their resume sent to the Search and Call (S&C) committee and some resumes are forwarded to us

by our Conference Minister, Jonathan Knight. The S&C committee has established a type of scorecard to review and to determine the best applicants for the position based on our needs. The committee will act like an HR department where candidates' names and details cannot be discussed outside of the committee. Once they have identified an appropriate candidate, they will share information with the congregation and proceed forward.

Introduction /Election of Council Members for 2015-2016:

The following slate was presented for approval: Moderator – Alex Kentfield, Christian Education – Frank Muno, Evangelism – Ann McLaughlin, Outreach – Valeri Baldwin, Worship & Spiritual Growth – Jane Shelton, Clerk – Kristen Thornton, Financial Secretary – Ann McLaughlin, Moderator-Elect - Kathleen Sullivan Kaska, Congregational Life – Barb Braulick and Debra Galloway, Facilities – Anne Bouchard and Chip Braulick, Stewardship – Bob Kaska, Members At Large – Susi Winquist, Open Position, Treasurer – Art Zwemke. A list of the following committee's members was also distributed: Personnel Relations, Endowment, New Beginnings, Interim Team, Pastoral Relation (open until new pastor hired), Search and Call and Long Range Planning Committee. Two open positions still exist for the Long Range Planning Committee. See Annual Report for a complete list of names.

Art Zwemke moved to approve the slate. The motion was seconded by Nancy Alex. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Don Heinrich moved to allow the nominating committee to select and fill vacant committee positions without having the selections needing to be approved by the congregation. Alex Kentfield seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Acknowledgement was given to the following council members that will be completing their term of service this year: Sandy Antonelli, Jane Shelton, Jan Marchese, Susannah Lesswing and Maureen O'Donnell.

Incoming Moderator's Comments: Alex Kentfield thanked and presented Susi Winquist with a gift for her past year's service.

Alex commented that he looks forward to the challenges of the year ahead which are many with the employment of a new pastor and the implementation of the New Beginnings Assessment Program.

Treasurer's Financial Update: Art Zwemke provided an updated financial report in the Annual Report. He noted that the pledges for this year were the highest in four years. However, the church's income is lagging behind in non-pledge income, primarily Identified Contributors. He explained that these contributions are given by non-members and members who do not pledge.

Art reviewed the aftermath of the transfer of funds that were approved at the last congregational meeting in February. Funds were transferred for the Peterson & Dixon Home Net Proceeds account to the Operating and Endowment funds.

Art also announced that there were still four tickets for today's baseball game outing. He had purchased 60. Also, the men's group will be meeting next Saturday at the Colonial Restaurant.

Unfinished Business:

In order to facilitate church business that is conducted at annual congregational meetings, Kathy Haben moved that the Bylaws be amended to reflect what happens when we do not have a quorum and/or enough proxy votes. It was noted that because this motion would change the church bylaws, it could not

be voted upon today. Therefore, Gail Zwemke amended the original motion to state that--“a process be started to review the current process for congregational voting with a potential for a revision of the Bylaws”.

The motion was seconded by Maureen O’Donnell. Discussion followed. There was a concern that members may not attend congregational meetings if they knew they could just vote by proxy which could result in less exchange of ideas. Members questioned the approval of business at the February meeting where there was no quorum. However, the approval of the February meeting was done by “delayed” direct votes by members who could not attend due to the weather. Vote of the motion was taken. All approved the motion. Motion passed. Work on this amendment to the bi-laws will be announced to the congregation prior to the next congregational meeting.

It was also suggested that the Annual Report be sent to the congregation in advance of the congregational January or June meetings.

Carol Berger noted corrections on the Clerk Report. They are Brianna Milam and Ken Johnson.

Ann McLaughlin wanted to acknowledge the Wayne Art League for donating funds to purchase four chairs for the church.

Thanks were given to Susannah Lesswing for heading the effort to purchase new chairs for the fellowship hall.

New Business: None

Greg Hege moved to adjourn the meeting. Don Heinrich seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 11:52 am.

Alex Kentfield gave the closing prayer.

Faithfully Submitted:
Kristen Thornton
Church Clerk