

**Fifty-Third Annual Meeting
St.Philip's Lutheran Church
6180 Highway 65 NE, Fridley, MN 55432
February 6, 2011**

MINUTES: Fifty-Third Annual Meeting of the Congregation

President Joel Young called the meeting to order at 12:05P.M. Joel thanked Parish Fellowship for the Souper Sunday lunch and he thanked all the members of the congregation for coming to this important meeting. 160 members were in attendance at the meeting. Howard Helgen served as parliamentarian.

- 1. Opening Devotions:** Interim Senior Pastor Chris Hagen
- 2. Minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting:**
A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting. Other minutes included in the packet – June 13, 2010 Whether or Not to Call a Senior Pastor to St. Philip's; October 17, 2010 – To elect a Call Committee for a Senior Pastor at St. Philip's Lutheran Church.
- 3. Annual Report of the Pastors and Staff:**
Interim Senior Pastor Chris Hagen
Associate Pastor Jan Hartsook
Associate Pastor John Hierlinger
Business Administrator Becky Leicher
Youth Director Ashley Tangen
A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve these reports.
- 4. Report of the Commissioners (Committee Chairpersons):**
A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve these reports
- 5. Report of the Endowment Fund Committee:**
Report given by Carole Jensen and John Truckenbrod. They reviewed the program and discussed the giving for 2010.
A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the report.
- 6. Report of the Financial Compliance Review Committee:**
A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the report.
- 7. Financial Report:**
Following discussion of the report and response of Treasurer Jason Karsten,
A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the report dated December 31, 2010.

8. Update of Status of Building Improvement:

No report for 2010.

9. Report of the Nominating Committee:

Chairperson Byron Schmid presented the candidates for election at the 53rd Annual Meeting. As he mentioned each candidate's name he gave a little 'bio' of the person.

Officers (1 year term, renewable once)

President – Robert Becker

Vice President – Gina Paton

Treasurer – Wylie Klawitter

Secretary – Carol Anderson (2nd 1 year term)

Board of Administration (2-year terms, renewable once)

Margo Tech

Tim Hardy

Richard Kruse

Matt Johnson (remaining 1 year of unexpired term)

Committee Chairpersons (2-year terms, renewable once)

Benevolence & Social Concern – Karla Ackerman

Education – Allison Sukalski (remaining 1 year of unexpired term)

Evangelism & Communication – Earl Hatten

Parish Fellowship – Kara Ruwart (second 2-year term)

Worship, Music and Arts – Byron Schmid

Financial Compliance Committee (1-year term, renewable)

Jason Karsten

Jane Truckenbrod

Nominating Committee (1-year term, non-renewable)

Sandy Byl

Sue Davis

Tim Hardy

Mike Johnson

Board of Administration (retiring, if possible, to be selected in the fall)

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10. Election of Officers, Board of Administration Members, Committee Chairs, Endowment Fund Committee, Financial Compliance Review Committee, and Nominating Committee.

Endowment Committee does not fall under the responsibility of the Nominating Committee, so these members will not be part of the election. Endowment Committee members are: Howard Mosman, Jennifer Prasek, Dana Rebelein, Howard Thompson joining Shirley Hogan & Duane Retzer. A chairperson will be elected in March.

Joel asked for nominations from the floor for any positions on the official ballot. Hearing none, a motion was made, seconded and carried to unanimously accept the official ballot, as is, for 2011.

Installation of the elected positions will be at both services on Sunday, February 13, 2011.

11. Election of Resolutions Committee:

No names were presented for election. A motion was made, seconded, and the motion carried to close nominations for this committee with the understanding that the Board of Administration will fill positions for the Resolutions Committee.

12. Election of Synod Assembly Representatives:

The following people volunteered to be nominated as representatives to the Synod Assembly May 6-7, 2011 at St. Andrews Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie. After these 6 names were presented a motion was made, seconded and carried to close nominations - Carol Anderson, Robert Becker, Rebecca Becker, Matt Johnson, Wylie Klawitter and Joel Young.

13. Old Business: None

14. New Business

- a) Call Committee Update – Dick Lekang, chairperson, reported to the meeting that the Ministry Site Profile had been completed and accepted by the Board of Administration. After submitting this profile to the Synod, the committee expects to receive numerous resumes' from potential candidates for Senior Pastor. They will continue to communicate with us by blog, emails, and articles in the Friend etc.
- b) Review of Pastoral Transition Process – Pastor Chris Hagen spoke to the meeting to reiterate the importance of the completion of the Ministry Site Profile. He stated that the Call Committee had their important work to do next in following up with potential candidates...but we as the congregation have our work to do as well. Pastor Chris suggested that we needed to prepare our hearts and minds to receive a new pastor and offer our support.

c) Presentation of the Budget for 2011 – Jason Karsten presented the 2011 Budget as prepared by the Board of Administration. The proposed budget with staff reduction to make up the \$60,692.00 deficit. Options for balancing the budget were:

- 1) Staff reduction –specific positions to be decided by the Board
- 2) Special Appeal – a) to begin in March b) Previous donors to give at same level as in 2010 c) All- members special fund appeal.
- 3) Combination staff reduction and special fund appeal.

Some of the discussion included the following thoughts:

- We should build on the enthusiasm of a new pastor and generate a fund appeal closer to a new pastor coming. Perhaps we could wait one year before excluding Garage Sale money in the budget.
- Stewardship, Endowment and our pastors have been meeting jointly with Thrivent representatives to develop a series of programs for St. Philip's called the "Making a Difference" series. We will discover our values and then build on that to enhance our money management and everyday living skills.
- This is not the time to cut staff with a new pastor coming. We should initiate a Special Appeal or initiate the Growth and Giving into the 2011 budget.
- Could the staff cut their hours? What would it take from each of us to cover the shortfall?
- We need to appeal to those members who are not helping to support the church financially.
- Have we had too many special appeals? Can we have this come up year after year?
- We should reach out to every member personally and with this we could find out why some are not participating.
- All-members appeal, option 2c. We can start fresh and look at cutting costs after new pastor arrives. Does not make sense to reduce staff at this time.
- Help members to understand that their pledge, or lack of, defines the budget. Stewardship and the budget process should not be separate.

A motion was made to approve the 2011 Budget by removing 'staff reduction' and replace with Special Appeal to make up the difference between income and expense. Discussion from the floor expressed that it is important to focus on permanent giving rather than special appeals and professionals should be used to help with the fund appeal. The motion was seconded and carried. The vote was not unanimous.

15. Report of Resolutions Committee: The 53rd Annual Report of the Resolutions Committee February 6, 2011 – Richard and Dawn Young

WHEREAS God has given unconditional love to the people of St. Philip's Lutheran Church since 1958,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

We want to give thanks for the dedication, faithfulness, and love given by the pastoral staff: including Interim Senior Pastor Chris Hagen, Pastor Jan Hartsook and Pastor John Hierlinger.

We give thanks for the continued support of the church staff which includes Wanda Benson, Hannah Braasch, Steven Crain, David Geslin, Rebecca Leicher, Chris Neisen, Suzanne Neisen, Julie Overlie, Stephanie Phelps, Ashley Tangen, and Dorothy (Tuni) Turner.

We give thanks to God for the time, work, and commitment of the call committee: Karla Ackerman, Isack Angerhofer, Becky Becker, Dee Blomster, Mike Carroll, Miriam Jensen, Matthew Johnson, Dick Lekang, and Valerie Sperry. We ask your blessings on their continuing quest to call a Senior Pastor.

We give thanks for the leadership of the President of the congregation, Joel Young, the Board of Administration, the Committee chairs and members, and all others who have given of their time, talents, and resources to lead St. Philip's Lutheran Church by serving the members, the community, our nation, and the world.

We give thanks for the sharing and service that the pastors, the staff both present and in the past, and all the ministers being the membership of St. Philip's Lutheran Church have reached out to share the love our Lord has given us with others here and throughout the world.

We give thanks for the generous giving in 2010 and the careful use of the funds you have provided to St. Philip's Lutheran Church. We ask for your continued blessings to keep us good stewards of the resources you will provide us in 2011. We ask that you be with all the members of St. Philip's in our use of the resources given to each of us as we prayerfully consider their use.

We give thanks for all that give of their time, talents, and caring that work with the youth of all ages, including Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and Confirmation.

We give thanks for all those that are involved in the music ministry and the role they play in the worship life at St. Philip's.

We give thanks for all that are involved in the outreach ministries of St. Philip's serving our neighbors in need in our community, our state, our Nation, and our world.

We give thanks to God for the growing ministries we share with Bille Lutheran, our companion congregation in Nigeria. We are also thankful for the work of Jim and Carol Sack, our missionaries in Japan. We ask that you continue to bless them as they spread your word to those in other parts of the world.

We give thanks to God for those who serve in the Minneapolis Area Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America which includes Bishop Mark Hansen and Bishop Craig Johnson, and their support staff.

We give thanks that we live in a place where we can voice our feelings about the things that happen to our people both here and around the world. We ask you, O Lord, that you send your Holy Spirit to those who oppose each other to share in the love you have given us with each other.

We give thanks that we are all one body in Christ.

We give thanks that we are saved through your grace.

We give thanks to you, O Lord, for your continued Faithfulness through 53 years of Ministry to the people of St. Philip's Lutheran Church, the local community, and the world. We ask for your continued blessing on us as we welcome others to join us in faith.

16. Adjournment of the Annual Meeting – Motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the 53rd Annual Meeting of St. Philip's Congregation.

17. Closing Prayer – Pastor Jan Hartsook

Minutes Submitted by Carol Anderson – Board Secretary