

**Fifty-Fourth Annual Meeting
St. Philip's Lutheran Church
6180 Highway 65 NE, Fridley, MN 55432
February 5, 2012**

MINUTES: Fifty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Congregation

President Bob Becker called the 54th congregational annual meeting to order at 12:05PM. Bob thanked Parish Fellowship for the Souper Sunday lunch and thanked the 117 members who were in attendance. Harold Kurtz served as parliamentarian.

1. Opening Devotions:

Senior Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem, read from Acts 17

2. Approval of Minutes of the 2011 Annual Meeting:

A motion was made, seconded and the motion carried to accept these minutes. Other minutes included in the packet – June 13, 2010 Congregational Meeting; August 14, 2011 Congregational Meeting to call Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem. (Pastor Joel noted that his name was misspelled, so corrections to 'Joel' have been made!)

3. Annual Report of the Pastors and Staff:

Senior Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem
Associate Pastor Jan Hartsook
Associate Pastor John Hierlinger
Youth Director Ashley Tangen
A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve these reports.

4. Report of the Committee Chairpersons:

Benevolence and Social Concerns – Karla Ackerman
Evangelism and Communication – Earl Hatten
Human Resources – Gina Paton
Parish Fellowship – Kara Ruwart
Property and Grounds – Greg Rosholt
Stewardship – Jerry Jensen
Worship, Music and Art – Linda LaFond
Youth – Andrew Tjader
A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve these reports.

5. Report of the Endowment Committee:

An annual report of the Endowment Fund was included in the meeting handouts in addition to a Committee Report.
A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve this report.

6. Report of the Financial Compliance Committee:

No formal report was available. President Bob Becker reported that the congregation was in the black for the first time in many years. The Financial compliance committee is still working on closing the year end financials. They hope to finish up in a couple weeks and when it is complete the report will be put into the narthex for distribution.

A motion was made, seconded and hearing no questions or concerns, the motion was carried.

7. Financial Report:

No report available. See Financial Compliance Committee report for explanation.

8. Report of the Nominating Committee:

Bob Becker, on behalf of the nominating committee, presented the candidates for election at the 54th Annual meeting.

Officers (1 year term, renewable once)

President – Gina Paton

Vice-President – Matt Johnson

Secretary - Miriam Jensen

Treasurer – Teresa Karsten

Board of Administration (2 year terms, renewable once)

Harold Lundberg

Deb Carroll

Norm Schultz

Committee Chairpersons (2 year term, renewable once)

Stewardship Committee – Deanna Blomster

Resolutions Committee (1 year term)

Dorothy Kuluvar

Joyce Lekang

Financial compliance Committee (1 year term, renewable)

Wylie Klawitter

Nominating Committee (1 year term, non-renewable)

Val Habig

Cheryl Jones

Charmaine Cadwell

Ken Moxness

Jim Fackler

Board of Administration (2)

Endowment Committee -Shirly Hogan (2nd term)

HR Committee member -Carol Anderson

9. Election of Officers, Board of Administration, Committee Chairs, Endowment Fund Committee, Financial Compliance Committee, Nominating Committee and Resolutions Committee

Bob Becker asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, a motion was made, seconded and carried to unanimously accept the official ballot, as is, for 2012.

10. Old Business:

a) Electronic Sign: Bob Becker explained that the Board has voted to move forward with the electronic sign. The family of Paul Rebelein has pledged \$25,000 in matching funds for this project. We are very grateful for Paul and for his leadership. \$14, 632 has been raised to date and the committee is looking for a total of \$30,000, 10% to be given to benevolence. Therefore, the sign committee is looking for \$15, 368 in additional donations. The committee hopes to have funding complete and construction underway this spring. A plaque will include Paul Rebelein's name.

Question:

What about rezoning for the sign? St. Philip's asked for a variance from Fridley and with the mayor's help, a new sign ordinance went through in Fridley and we are OK to move forward.

This sign is seen as a real outreach, a 'tool of ministry' for St. Philip's.

Suggestions:

The plaque should be engraved granite rather than a metal or copper to prevent it from being stolen.

The plaque should include both Dana and Paul Rebelein in recognition for their contributions to the sign.

11. New Business:

a) 2012 Budget: Wylie Klawitter & Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem

Bob Becker asked everyone to look at the narrative budget (written by Pastor Joel), included in the handout, as Wylie read the narrative budget and guided the members through the financial numbers.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the 2012 budget.

b) Other new business: Representatives to the ELCA convention for February 2012 are Margo Tech, Bob Becker, Gina Paton, Matt Johnson, Becky Becker & Pastor Joel.

12. Report of Resolutions Committee: The 54th Annual Report of the Resolutions committee February 5, 2012 – Randee Arfmann & Cathy Anderson

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 to us by the pastoral staff including: Senior Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem, Pastor Jan Hartsook, Pastor John Hierlinger, and Interim Senior Pastor Chris Hagen.

We give thanks for the continued support of the church staff which includes: Wanda Benson, Hannah Braasch, Steve Crain, David Geslin, Nancy Lija-Nerheim, Suzanne Neisen, Chris Nelson, Stephanie Phelps, Brian Schroeder, Ashley Tangen, and Dorothy (Tuni) Turner.

We give thanks for the blessings received from former Interim Pastor Chris Hagen in his service to our Lord and to the members of St Philip's Lutheran Church.

We give thanks for the acceptance of the call and for the leadership of Senior Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem

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

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

We give thanks for the added efforts of Pastor Jan Hartsook and Pastor John Heirlinger between the departure of Interim Pastor Chris Hagen and the arrival of Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem

We give thanks for the former church staff members and for their love and support of the mission here at St. Philip's Lutheran Church during their time of service. This includes: Rebecca Leicher, Julie Overlie, and Ella Stalling.

We give thanks for the addition of new staff members: Nancy Lija-Nerheim, Chris Neisen, and Brian Schroeder

We give thanks for the generous giving in 2011 and for the careful use of the funds that you have provided to St. Philip's Lutheran Church. We ask for your

continued blessings to keep us good stewards of the resources that you will provide us in 2012. We ask that you be with all the ministers of St. Philip's in our use of the resources given to each of us as we prayerfully consider their use.

We give thanks to God for the growing ministries that we share with Bille Lutheran, our companion congregation in Nigeria and for the ministries of Jim and Carol Sack, our missionaries in Japan.

We give thanks for the St. Philip's Disaster Relief Team and their work in Minnesota, North Dakota and in Tennessee.

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, former Bishop Craig Johnson, and the current interim Bishop Glenn Nycklemoe 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 your 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 54 years of ministry to the people of St. Philip's Lutheran Church, the local community, and the world. We ask for your continued blessings on us as we welcome others to join us in faith.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report.

At this time, Margo Tech stood up and said that she, on behalf of the Board, wanted to give special thanks to Bob Becker for shouldering the brunt of the leadership of St. Philip's in the absence of a Senior Pastor and Business Administrator. Bob received a standing ovation.

13. Adjournment of the Annual Meeting – A motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the 54th Annual Meeting of St. Philip's Congregation.

14. Closing Prayer - Pastor Jan Hartsook

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Carol Anderson – Board Secretary