

ULC Council Minutes
July 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Sue Diel at 4:25 p.m., following the council retreat at St. John's Lutheran Church. The following voting members of the council were present: Sue Diel, Audrey Jaenke, and Karen Eisenbarth. Gary King and Katie Hackworthy were absent. The following non-voting members were present: financial secretary, Greg Granlund, Pastor Lori Ruge-Jones, and ministry chairs Jill Granlund and Carol Rudd. The meeting began with prayer and reading together ULC's guiding principles.

New Business - Action items

None

Secretary's Report - The secretary's report of the June 4 council meeting was approved as written.

Financial Report - Greg Granlund presented the June financial report, and it was accepted by the council. The complete financial report for June will be filed with these minutes. Greg stated that there are still a few "teething" problems with the new Quicken soft ware, but things appear to be smoothing out. Greg was asked if there has been an increase in giving since the stewardship emphasis last fall. He responded that this is somewhat difficult to monitor. However, the amount of electronic giving is definitely increased, and this source of funding is constant and steady. The possibility of sending a letter to remind individuals about giving commitments was discussed. It was felt that it would be a good idea to do this, and it was further felt that good timing for such a letter would be in August, when ULC is gearing up for a full slate of fall activities. ULC could be asked to make a down payment soon to the ERC to pay for part of the cost of the installation of the new windows. Funds raised in the fall Century Club drive will be used to help pay ULC's portion of the cost of the installation of the new windows, but in the event that the down payment is requested prior to the fall drive, it may be necessary to consider taking those funds from a ULC savings account. The cost of the window replacement project will represent two years of contributions to ERC building improvements.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Lori said that she is happy as ULC's pastor and is enjoying the summer's emphasis on books of the Bible which are generally less traveled. The Bible study on the book of Daniel will be after worship on July 28. She also discussed a few ideas which ULC members had mentioned to her prior to the retreat. One involved establishing a group of people who would volunteer in school classrooms, and another involved having Beacon House volunteers aid in seeking out other volunteers who might be willing to donate time and resources there. It was announced that the ministry teams will meet on July 21.

Ministry Report

"Thankfully Worship" - No Report

"Gracefully Welcome"

Carol Rudd stated that planning continues for the "God's Work, Our Hands" event scheduled for Sunday, September 29. Carol further noted that each congregation participating in the event is

being asked to contribute \$250 to help fund the projects which will be undertaken that day. The motion was made, seconded, and passed to make this contribution and to fund it from ULC's annual benevolences.

“Joyfully Serve”

Via written report, Pat Wojcik said that this ministry is working with “Gracefully Welcome” to develop projects for “God’s Work. Our Hands”. She noted that ULC served the meal at Community Table on June 23 and asked that members also be aware that ULC continues to collect non-food items for Campus Harvest, which has now been relocated to the basement of Brewer Hall. More information will be coming later regarding the “Hike for the Homeless”, which will occur on Saturday, September 28.

“Learn and Grow”

Jill reported that she and Pastor Lori had met together, and that this ministry will begin their work by asking ULC members to complete a survey regarding the type and variety of educational activities in which they would participate. The survey will also include information regarding desired meeting times and formats. After the survey results are analyzed, the ministry hopes to plan at least one event or activity per semester, as well as during the summer.

Old Business

Preparations continue for the eighty-fifth anniversary of LSA, which will be celebrated on UWEC's Homecoming on October 17. A brunch at the Student Center is being planned.

ULC will host an Interfaith Prayer Service at 6:30 p.m. on September 25.

The structure and mechanics of actually carrying out a Century Club fund drive will necessitate discussion at upcoming council meetings. This will be the first time that ULC has done this drive independently.

Discussion continued regarding how to most effectively use the \$2000 gift, given to ULC with a call for “positive action”, following the deaths involving Girl Scout Troop 3055. Aiding students in being food secure appears to be the group's consensus for its “positive action.” Crockpots and food could be purchased and given to students. Students could be invited into homes to prepare meals together, thus providing cooking lessons in a friendly and informal environment. This matter will be discussed further at a later meeting.

The next meeting of the ULC Council is scheduled for Sunday, August 18, following the morning worship service.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m. by reading from the responsive prayers in the Lutheran Book of Worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Eisenbarth, Secretary

