

ULC Council Minutes September 9, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Sue Diel at 6:31 p.m. in the library of the ERC. The following voting members of the council were present: Sue Diel, Audrey Jaenke, Karen Eisenbarth, and Gary King. The following non-voting members were present: financial secretary, Greg Granlund, Pastor Lori Ruge-Jones; ministry chairs, Linda Erickson and Pat Wojcik, and guest, Andrea Gapko. The meeting began with Bible study of Peter's Vision in Acts 10, ULC's chosen thematic Bible story. This was followed by prayer for all individual ULC members and reading together ULC's guiding principles.

New Business - Action Items

Discuss ULC Constitution review project - At ULC's annual meeting in 2018, temporary constitutional changes were adopted which allowed for significant alteration in the congregation's mission structure. These changes were to be enacted and then evaluated over a two year period. After the two year period, at the 2020 annual meeting, a decision will be made regarding whether or not to make these changes permanent. It was believed that many in the congregation lack knowledge or understanding of these changes which have been put in place and that information needs to be shared in that regard prior to the 2020 annual meeting. It was decided to discuss the new organizational structure at the congregational budget meeting this fall, and that prior to that meeting, ULC members would receive an informational letter explaining the new structure for mission which is currently being used. Following the discussion at the budget meeting, it will be determined if further informational meetings are needed. The following individuals agreed to serve on a committee charged with drafting the proposed constitutional changes: Pastor Lori Ruge-Jones, Sue Diel, Audrey Jaenke, and Andrea Gapko.

Old Business - Action Items

Council member replacement - Sue Diel reported that she did not receive any additional names of potential council candidates from Jacob Gapko, who chaired the nominating committee last spring. The council continued to feel that it would be positive if Katy Hackworthy's replacement had a university connection and that a male appointee would result in a more gender-balanced council. A few names were suggested, and Sue will speak with these potential candidates to see who will accept the appointment. The person who is appointed will serve until ULC's 2020 Annual Meeting and could then be a candidate for election to the church council.

Century Club fall drive - ULC will have a Century Club drive this fall, with the funds raised going to pay the congregation's share of the cost of upcoming window replacement, which will amount to between \$4,000 and \$5,000 for this year and an equal amount for next year. Gary King and Greg Granlund will prepare a letter to be sent to ULC members in late November which explains the need and purpose of what will become an annual fund drive.

Quadrennial review - Pastor Lori will contact the regional coordinator who will help begin the process of the Quadrennial Review.

Secretary's Report - The secretary's report of the August 18 council meeting was approved as amended. The altered text concerned the length of time that an appointed council member would serve and whether he/she could then stand for election to the council.

Financial Report - Greg Granlund presented the August financial report, and it was accepted by the council. Greg noted that August has typically been a low attendance and low offering month. Though a deficit of about \$1,800 per month has been the norm this year, it has not been necessary as yet to transfer money from the savings account to cover monthly operating expenses. The complete financial report for August will be filed with these minutes.

Ministry Reports

Pastor's Report - Pastor Lori stated that work on the balcony is now complete, and the ceiling fans are now functioning. The work came in under bid, and the generous gift offered by an anonymous donor paid for all of the improvements. Pastor Lori has met with students in the new space and finds it to be a peaceful worship spot with a beautiful view.

Planning continues for the celebration of eighty-five years of LSA presence on the UWEC campus. A UWEC alumnus, Aaron Sturgis, will preach at ULC that Sunday, October 13, and a brunch will be offered at Davies Center following worship. Registration and payment for the brunch can be done online. Posters which depict the history of LSA on this campus have been designed and are ready for printing; they will be displayed in the ERC at the time of the celebratory event.

Pastor Lori announced that she would be absent from ULC one Sunday this semester when she visits the intern she is supervising, in order to observe her preaching and conducting a service of worship. Pastor Lori's intern will also likely preach at ULC once during the course of the semester.

On Saturday, November 16, a joint Lutheran/Catholic event will be held at Immaculate Conception. The cost of the event will be covered by funds remaining from the past joint celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

"Thankfully Worship" - Linda Erickson reported that two new members, Bill Eisenbarth and Matt Greenwaldt, have been added to this ministry. ULC will host the Interfaith Prayer Service on Wednesday, September 25. A taco bar is planned for the meal, and this ministry will be assisted by two other ministries in providing the meal. The ministry will need to focus its attention on a search for a new pianist for second semester because Andrew will graduate in December.

"Gracefully Welcome" - No Report

"Joyfully Serve" - Pat Wojcik reported that the ministry was happy to have provided a welcoming presence on campus move-in day with the lemonade stand. Though not very much lemonade was poured, the visibility and warm smiles were appreciated on the cool day. And the lemonade did not go to waste; it was used for the rest of the week! On-line sign up is now available for the varied volunteer opportunities at the "God's Work, Our Hands" event on

September 29. A “Hike for the Homeless” will be held on Saturday, September 28; sign-up for this activity is unlimited. ULC will be serving at Family Promise (Beacon House) on October 17 through October 19.

“Learn and Grow” - No report

A decision was made to hold ULC council meetings on the second Monday evening of each month at 6:30 p.m. The meeting dates for the rest of 2019 are as follows: October 14, November 11, and December 9.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. with the ULC Mission Statement.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Eisenbarth, Secretary