

**Minutes
Maricopa Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting
April 9, 2017**

Meeting called to order by President Roger Smith at 1:00 p.m.

Those present: President Roger Smith, Vice President Sharon Mros, Pastor Glenn Zimbelman, Carol Van Batavia, Sue Fletcher, Richard Rohde, Carolyn Barden, Barbara Nybakken, Peter Rathfelder and Kathie Miller, Secretary.

Two Guests: Barbara Carl, Del Nordtvedt

Absent: Gary Decker

Pastor Glenn gave an opening prayer.

Secretary minutes: Motion made to approve by Barbara Nybakken, second, Richard Rohde, motion passed.

Treasure's Report: Accepted as presented by Del Nordtvedt. Motion made by, Peter Rathfelder, second, Sharon Mros.

Our guest, Barbara Carl, is a representative from the council of the Grand Canyon Synod, Fiesta Conference. She was here a year ago and was interested in our progress from last year as a fully functioning and very active church. She was happy to hear of our strong commitment to mission outreach and our strong growth this past year. She will be sharing this information back with synod and looks forward to seeing Rathfelders at assembly. She shared how much our commitment to our mission giving to ELCA meant for all who have received.

Evangelism Committee reported on the organization, "Arizona Faith Network". This is a multi organizational group of mostly main-stream Christian churches, Jews, Muslims and other organizations committed to better understanding of one another, our world and environment. The suggested membership cost is \$3-5 per church family. Since we have about 50 families, we thought \$200 per year would cover our membership as a church. As we begin participation in this group a church member will become a communications point person to share what opportunities within this 'Network' exist that our church might like to be aware of. Most of the seminars are free or \$10 if food is provided. Any church member can attend.

- A motion was made by Sue Fletcher, second, Sharon Mros, to join "Arizona Faith Network" for the \$200 annual membership. Motion carried.

One of the possible goals for Evangelism is to provide rides to church for those unable to drive. Kathie Miller will look into Arizona laws and insurance for driving others, particularly if they are handicapped.

Fellowship Committee shared how they felt it is important to show special appreciation to those volunteers who go over and above the expected outcome, such as Eileen Stratman's efforts for the lasagna dinner/fund raiser. It was discussed as to whether it should be a church-wide recognition or just within a committee. Some felt that all who help should be recognized however in the case of the chairman pulling it all together, Eileen's efforts were amazing! For now committees will show their appreciation within committee as it is explored how to present these special people to the congregation.

- Barb Nybakken made a motion to allow individual committees to lift up 'outstanding volunteers' for recognition by the congregation. Second by Carol VanBatavia. Motion carried with one nay.

Pastor's Report:

1. Call family transferred to Mountain View. Has Ruth and Horace Mayes' application. Waiting on a few more.
2. Confirmation will be wrapped up at the end of April with Confirmation taking place on Reformation Sunday.
3. Summer preaching series will be on Luther's Small Catechism. (Ten C, Lord's Prayer, Creed)
4. 31 Books sold
5. Appreciate the work for Fellowship and also cleaning out storage unit.
6. Will be hosting a men's meeting on Sunday a.m. to talk about men's Bible Study interests.
7. Arizona Faith Network

He also reported that he received a letter from the Grand Canyon Synod, thanking our church for our mission commitment and how much extra they had received overall this year. Sue will publish this on our web site.

Education committee fundraiser reported that they sold 31 books.

Peter Rathfelder brought a special poster about being an "all inclusive" church. Because we have a good statement in our bulletin about this, it was felt that his poster would be a good one to post in various places in our new church. It added a bit of humor to a serious need to share God's house with all. If copyright allows Sue can add it to the web site.

- A motion was made by Carol Van Batavia, for Peter to find out what the copyright status is to use this poster, second by Barbara Nybakken. Motion carried.

It was reported that the "Building/Finance" Committee has been filled with the addition of Jody Rathfelder and Horace Mayes.

Pastor shared the base sketches of proposed possibilities for our church building, to share with the city of Maricopa and the sellers. It is only for size and intention rather than form, at this time and is required by the city.

New Business:

The council reviewed the Church Retreat (3/11/2017) goals, to simplify and separate congregational goals from committee goals. Council worked through the report to establish these divisions. Barbara Nybakken will write up the goals for the congregation, forward them to Pastor and council for a joint on-line meeting for discussion and approval.

It is hoped to have our church goals for 2017 ready to be published and shared with the congregation before the May council meeting.

Next meeting will be held on May 7, 2017 at Vice President, Sharon Mros' home as President Roger Smith will be out of town.

Motion to adjourn made by Peter Rathfelder, second, Sharon Mros. Carried

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

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Respectfully submitted,

Kathie Miller, Secretary