Monday, April 16, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

**Attending:**

Luanne Riedel Pastor Barsch Mary Ann Mantey

Paul Rossmann Janice Navarro Jan Tresch

Diane Borgardt Randy Laehr Kari Weber

Dawn Jacobson John Kirt Christy Zygowski

**Absent:** None

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Barsch

**Prior Meeting Minutes:** The March Meeting minutes were approved as presented.

**Special Considerations:**

Finance Committee presented an overview of the church financial situation. Dawn Jacobson presented the first quarter (March YTD) review. Tammy Rosenberg presented the proposal for the congregation quarterly finance presentation. Council was supportive.

**Reports:**

***Pastor’s Report:*** At the 6:30 a.m. Easter Service there was only 27 attendees of which 12 were involved in the service. It is not cost effective to continue this service. Pastor will be attending the Pastor’s Conference in two weeks. He expects to hear more about the giving trends experienced by other churches and bring this information back to the Council and appropriate committees. Pastor’s first church will be celebrating their 100th year as a church in August. Pastor has been invited to be a speaker at their celebration. He plans to attend. Adult Ed on Tuesday averages 20-30 people and will extend two extra weeks due to the high interest.

***AIM Report:*** Confirmation starting again (5 classes remaining). Kim Anderson has agreed to take the position of Confirmation Coordinator replacing Diane Colletta. Diane and Joe are moving to North Carolina.

***Vice-President Report:*** No report

***Treasurer’s Report:*** Finance Committee covered this month update.

**Committee Reports:**

***Finance (Dawn Jacobson):*** Covered earlier.

***Trustees (John Kirt):*** John brought samples for the outside benches. The final color is still under consideration. Trustees are evaluating a new security company and will come with a proposal next month. John has prices for renting a lift to replace lights. He is also looking at getting the lift from Prairie if possible. There is no rush to replacing the lights until fall. John reminded everyone that “Clean Up” day is April 28th. Trustees have a list of both indoor and outdoor tasks. Trustees are working on the sign as well as the feasibility of the card swipe for scrip purchases. Terry put together possibilities for the new garage (all within the budget) copies will be in Council member’s mailboxes.

***Deacons (Mary Ann Mantey):*** No report.

***Parish Ed (Kari Weber):*** Everyone was happy with the First Communion. It was noted the work from Barb Blickle for the nice celebration. The Brick fund raiser sold 20 bricks. They are looking at doing this again in the fall. April 22nd will be outside activities for Sunday school. The month of May will be a busy month with various special topics. There was a discussion of teacher appreciation gifts for end of year and whether this is important or not given the current economy and church financial situation.

***Membership (Paul Rossmann):*** Tony Baumgardt event went well however the expenses were a bit more than the income that was taken in. Zoo picnic is the next event planned. Dates will be communicated shortly. Scrip may cover some of the costs. This event will require signup so that food can be ordered.

***Stewardship (Randy Laehr):*** Committee discussed Time and Talent and they preparing to do this soon. Everyone on Stewardship will be attending the Stewardship fair this weekend. They also requested to keep informed on the Finance of the church. Randy will keep them informed from Council meetings.

***Church in Society (Christy Zygowski):*** Parenting classes are coming up (1-2-3 Magic Parenting). These have been very well attended (15-20 people). Meatless Monday was also well attended. The committee is brainstorming on other classes they may offer. The Green team is working with Sunday school on the projects for the green area. The committee also requested Council to consider looking at how we are using the areas for scrip, information center, coffee area, sales, etc. They would like to be involved in brainstorming. How can we use the Information Center better, for example? Council has requested that they come up with some suggestions that can be considered. Christy will bring these back to a future council meeting. The Committee also suggested the use of email blasts to the congregation from the Church Secretary for things coming up (sales, etc). This suggestion was agree to by Council.

***Youth (Diane Borgardt):*** Work continues on the youth room floor. The bread sale had a small profit and they will consider if this sales should continue or not. The Earth Day auction will be completed this Sunday. Sandwich sales will start in two weeks. The Youth Committee commented that events by other committees that use the kitchen and fellowship hall don’t seem to clean up. They would like it stressed that the cleanup must be done by the committee that uses the facilities. **All Council members are to bring this back to their respective committees.** The Youth Committee identified the concern that the children (often the same children) are missing church due to many of the sales, clean up, etc. Another suggestion was to increase communication by using the web-site. The Youth Committee would like approval to update the youth page. Youth Committee should discuss this with Pastor.

**Old Business:**

* Synod Assembly attendees (May 31-June 2). We are still looking for 2 attendees (Jan Tresch is planning to attend). The Synod is encouraging young adults and therefore Paul will bring this to the Yahoo Group.
* Congregational Leaders Event was a great day. Luanne summarized what each learned (handout). Technology is huge and was stressed throughout the event. Also, Council should consider “What does our church do as a part of this community?” Our church needs something that the community attaches us to….some event. One suggest was could we consider having our own 12 hour relay for life on our grounds? Or something similar to this. Something where we are bringing people to this church or that they associate this church with. **Everyone should discuss ideas with your respective committees and bring ideas back to the next Council meeting.** Pastor suggested that we are already known for our Youth Program and our Quilters.

**New Business:**

**Open items:**

**Closing Prayer:** Christy Zygoswski

**Respectively submitted,**

***Dawn Jacobson***

Congregation Council Secretary

**Next Meeting: Monday, May 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Closing Prayer: Mary Ann Mantey**