Monday, November 19, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

**Attending:**

Luanne Riedel Dawn Jacobson John Kirt

Paul Rossmann Pastor Barsch Jan Tresch

Diane Borgardt Janice Navarro Christy Zygowski

**Absent:** Randy Laehr, Mary Ann Mantey, and Kari Weber

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Barsch

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

**Special Topics:**

* A suggestion was made to have folks in the congregation mentor others to prepare them for committee participation. One example was for the Finance Committee to insure new committee leads understand their budget responsibilities, etc. Council agreed this would be good practice.

**Reports:**

***Pastor’s Report:*** This Wednesday is our Thanksgiving Service and next Wednesday is our “The Search for Christmas“ program and then the following Wednesday’s will be Advent services (which will include skits).

***AIM Report:*** Sign up for “The Search for Christmas” so that they have a count for attendees.

***Vice-President Report:*** Close to finishing the plan for the Planning Conference. Paul will bring his proposal to one of the next few Council meetings. Paul was approached about replacing the big In-Sink-Erator in the Kitchen. In-Sink-Erator Corporate donated the model. Installation is estimated at $600-$700. Other drains seem slow at draining and needs to be looked at before replacing.

***Treasurer’s Report:*** Remaining flat at 2% below budget for income. Expenses remain favorable and Diane is looking at any anticipated large expenses that are still expected for the remainder of the year. This year we have 5 Sunday’s in December. Finance Committee should make note to distribute a budget form to each committee in October to be turned in early November each year.

**Committee Reports:**

***Finance (Dawn Jacobson):*** The Finance Committee is currently in the process of preparation of the budget for 2013. Reminder, please submit priorities and special requests for next year…..received none at this point. Dawn will be out from Jan – mid April.

***Trustees (John Kirt):*** Trustees are working on proposals for the following. Council discussed but has not approved any of the expenditures at this point.

1. Trustees are looking at LED bulbs for the Sanctuary ($40/piece or about $1,800 plus the cost of the lift).
2. Received an estimate of $3,200 for airport wiring which allows high speed wireless access around the church. They are trying to target the teachers, staff and the pastors. Current method is too slow downstairs and the south end offices upstairs.
3. Trustees have researched the heating issue and when sun hits the room the thermostats over heats. To separate the thermostats would cost $2,950. It will cost $400 to put a value in each room to regulate the heat in the downstairs teaching room.

Additional updates from the Trustees included:

1. The survey on the giving preferences did not work well. Not enough positive responses to look at going forward with a credit card option (due to the varying of the fee depending on the transaction). Pastor will touch base with Tony who has been leading this.
2. Regarding Thrivent’s program for matching funds (mentioned in last meeting notes), Paul/Dori will be talking with Mike Christofferson to understand the new program and will bring information back to the council for consideration.
3. Looking at an easel for business cards of the members – Linda Henkel will be monitoring it. Council approved.
4. Keys are being looked at and they are having trouble identifying all the key owners.

***Deacons (Mary Ann Mantey):*** Baptism banner is up now. Nursery is no longer being staffed. Lay reader list is trying to be re-created as a result of computer technical problems the list is not available.

***Parish Education (Kari Weber):*** none

***Membership (Paul Rossmann):*** Focused on the upcoming events. Outdoor movie night was marginally attended but a neighbor called the police which came with no issue at all.

***Stewardship (Randy Laehr):*** Pastor updated that pledges were 183 total from last January and this year after 2-3 weeks we are at 141. This is a very positive response compared with last year.

***Church in Society (Christy Zygowski):*** The committee is working on their annual report as wells as nominating process for the coming year. They have expressed concerns with those rolling-off the committee. The committee is also recommending that the Council/Finance Committee consider include in the budget for next year a contribution to the Racine taxes. The Council discussed this recommendation and did not approve contributing to the Racine Tax request.

***Youth (Jan Tresch):*** Homeless night on Nov 9th  brought in over $1,100. The committee is currently planning a Christmas party and a cookie calk. Yahoo had been planning to fund raise for a trip to Haiti but due to concerns with security in Haiti they are now looking at other international locations.

**Old Business:**

* New Garage update: Should be completed by Monday.

**New Business:**

**Closing Prayer:**  Luanne Riedel

**Respectively submitted,**

***Dawn Jacobson***

Congregation Council Secretary 

**Next Meeting: Monday, December 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Closing Prayer: Janice Navarro**