

ACTIONS AND HIGHLIGHTS
COUNCIL MEETING

January 26, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Don Ager, Ramona Allenbaugh, Pr. Baldwin, Brenda Erber, JoAnne Fisher, Karen Hessel, Cindy Hermann, Sam Paul, Katie Green

MEMBER EXCUSED: Jim Edgmond, and Connor Lawhead

ANNUAL MEETING:

Sixty-five of 197 eligible voting members were in attendance with coffee and treats provided by Joanna Wilts and Council members. The 2017 General Fund Budget and the Capital Improvement Plan were approved by the Congregational members. A savings plan for future capital improvements was briefly explained noting a beginning balance of \$37, 548. The appeal for congregational volunteers for the Capital Improvement Fundraising Board yielded three members: Tammy Stein, Lynn Kelly, and Tibe Vanderlinden, who will join Council members Brenda Erber and JoAnne Fisher. Pastor Baldwin spoke on the Renewed in Christ, Transformed by Love visioning process for Grace. The Council members, Nominating Committee, and delegates to the SE IA Synod for 2017 as listed on page 37 of the annual report were elected by acclamation. Additional copies of the annual report are available in the church office.

INTERNET SPEED UPGRADE:

Council approved upgrading the Machlink internet speed to 50 Mbps download and 10 Mbps upload at a cost of \$109.99/month. Prior to the upgrade, the speed was 3 Mbps download and 1 Mbps upload at \$50.99/per month.

OFFICE PRINTER/COPIER:

The present office copier is old, outdated, and no longer fulfills the needs of the church. Therefore, Council approved a 60-month lease for a refurbished Sharp printer/copier at \$80/month. The Sharp printer/copier is approximately 2-ft wide, which is considerably smaller than the present copier.

LIFE TOUCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY:

Life Touch contacted the church office about returning to Grace for an updated congregational pictorial directory. There is no expense to the church for the directory or the members who would be entitled to one per family. Grace members would have the option of purchasing their individual pictures at their own expense. Life Touch would need 2-3 days to take the pictures and an additional 2-3 weeks for Grace to receive the directories. Council approved Life Touch coming to Grace for the directory. Picture dates and times will be announced later.

RENEWED IN CHRIST, TRANSFORMED BY LOVE: A VISION FOR GRACE

Pr. Baldwin reviewed with Council members the process for the cottage meetings. Council members hosting the meetings will be Brenda Erber, JoAnne Fisher, Katie Green, Don Ager, Sam Paul, and Ramona Allenbaugh. Tammy Stein will also be a hostess. Sign-up sheets with dates and times to attend these meetings will be posted on the hallway bulletin board.

LOCKS AND KEYS:

The Property Board has been asked to investigate and let Council know in February the cost for installing a remote "buzz-in" electromagnetic lock for the main entrance and having a master key for all the interior doors.

WEB SITE:

Pr. Baldwin and Mike Allenbaugh will begin designing a new web site for Grace using Weebly Website Builder at no additional cost to Grace. The Council members were asked to bring web site ideas to the February Council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
JoAnne Fisher, Council Secretary

Meeting adjourned: 7:55 p.m.
Length of Meeting: One hour 30 minutes