

ACTIONS AND HIGHLIGHTS  
COUNCIL MEETING  
September 22, 2016

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Don Ager, Ramona Allenbaugh, Pr. Baldwin, Jim Edgmond, Brenda Erber, JoAnne Fisher, Karen Hessel, Cindy Hermann, and Sam Paul.

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Connor Lawhead and Shirlee Staley

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**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:**

Confirmation Pictures: Christian Ed and members of the WELCA (Women of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) group will be working together to get this project completed.

Youth Trips: Plans and fundraisers are being discussed for a youth mission trip in 2017 and attending the Youth Gathering in Houston, TX in July 2018.

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE:**

Oktoberfest Potluck will be Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, after second service. The GLO (Graceful Living Opportunities) Sheets will be available on 9/25 for members to sign up for various upcoming events.

**COUNCIL MEMBER TERMS:**

A roll call was taken of the council members asking if they would be returning for 2017 with all members returning except for Hospitality. The Council Secretary will conclude her 3-year term the end of December; however, if no replacement is found, she will continue for another year. This information will be forwarded to the Nominating Committee.

**COUNCIL RETREAT:**

On October 8<sup>th</sup> from 9-2, Council members will gather for their annual retreat at the Muscatine County Extension Office on Isett Avenue.

**GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS:**

On Sunday, 9/11, Grace, New Era, Shepherd of the Cross, and Zion Lutheran churches collected approximately 3,000 lb of food and \$964 in cash donations for the Muscatine Food Pantry in a 5-hour timeframe. A total of 46 volunteers participated in the event; 23 of whom were from Grace. The Boy Scout Troop of Grace also assisted with this event by unloading the pickup trucks and helping the staff of the Food Pantry to sort and store the donated items.

**ONE SERVICE OR TWO:**

This will be discussed in more detail at the Council Retreat on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

**PROPERTY BOARD:**

Items discussed were the status of the boiler, repair or replacement of the sloping roof, and resurfacing of the entry drives and parking areas. The Board will include in their 2017 budget the amounts needed to resurface the driveways and repairs to the sloping roof.

**SOCIAL MINISTRY:**

The Literacy Program will be awarded on September 28<sup>th</sup> a \$3,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine to defray some of the expenses of their ministry. Congratulations!

A Home-Bound Ministry has been established and five volunteers will meet on October 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss visit times and voice any concerns or questions.

**TREASURER:**

The Board Chairs were provided a copy of their year-to-date expenses for 2016 and were asked to use this as a guide for determining their 2017 budget needs. They were asked to discuss their expenses at their October meetings and provide to Council on October 27<sup>th</sup> their budget, which will then be reviewed by the Executive Committee.

**WORSHIP AND MUSIC:**

A new order of worship for the 8:15 service was discussed and will be implemented very soon.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 8:10 p.m. (One hour, 40 minutes)

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Fisher, Council Secretary