

**MT. ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES**, abridged  
January 12, 2016

**PRESENT:** Pastor Erin, 8 council members, 3 staff. A quorum was present.

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Nicole Gelina called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. at Mt. Zion. Pastor Erin led us in prayer. A candle was lit to remind us that God is present. Pastor led a devotional about celebrating since she has been here one year this week! Reading from 1 Chronicles. Pastor Erin said a prayer.

Agenda approved. Jim Johnson/ Karen McConville M/S/C

**COUNCIL SECRETARY AND STAFF REPORTS:**

**COUNCIL SECRETARY:** Katie Jones. The corrected minutes of Dec. 8, 2015 were emailed.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY:** (Joan Christopher) Written report. Over budget for the month \$9,585.77 and under budget \$6,901.05 year to date. 67% of the 3 year goal of Time to Prosper \$384,495 has been given. Mission Investment Fund Loan Balance: \$719,021.24 as of Dec. 31, 2015.

**TREASURER:** (Robin Arneson) Written report. Robin stated we are over budget for the month \$1,627.57 and under budget \$3,723.17 year to date. Checkbook balance \$13,949.48.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Written report. Pastor attended 18 meetings and other events in Dec., conducted 3 midweek services, a premarital counseling, a personal counseling and 3 home visits. She used 1 vacation day in December for a total of 17 out of 20. 3 will carry over to 2016. 4 Sundays out of 4 allowed. 3 sick days in December, used 7 out of 10 allowed. 3 will carry over to 2016. .

Membership Adjustments and Pastoral Acts: Baptized 1. Youth 76. Adults 278. Total baptized Membership 354. Associate Members 11.

**ANNA'S UPDATES:** Annual Reports due Jan. 18.

Approve Staff Reports Einar Hanson/Sonja Johnson M/S/C

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY:** (Judy Meincke and Shelley Hallen.) Monthly update e-mailed. Sunday School money will go to Brick by Brick for Tanzania.

**YOUTH DEACONS:** Two Mt. Zion high schooler plus two friends are attending NETworks Bible Study with Danny.

**BOARD FOR FINANCE:** (Jackie Anderson and Jim Johnson) Jackie will email all the financial reports to Jim Johnson.

**BOARD FOR PROPERTY:** (Dave Anderson and Dennis O'Connell) Dennis asked President Nicole to find out the opinions on the new chairs. Some comments: footers harm the carpet. If removed, chairs tip. Chairs are hard, cold, looked cheap.

**BOARD FOR OUTREACH AND SOCIAL MINISTRY:** (Melody Wahlberg and Sonja Johnson) Sonja delivered baskets along with Sarah.. Exodus House sent thank you signed by all 12 men for giving tree gifts.

**BOARD FOR MUSIC AND WORSHIP:** (Karen McConville and Einar Hanson) Sub-woofer for the organ is rotting out. (About \$700 to replace). Joan reported there is Organ money in the Memorial Fund. Hanson "Move for Worship and Music Board to use up to \$1,000 from the Organ Fund to replace the sub-woofer on the organ." Einar Hanson/Judy Meincke M/S/C Einar asked about a place to post photos of new members--bulletin board, easel, electronic screen on the wall? Idea will be brought to property committee. Lenten Services will be at Mt. Zion with First Presbyterian participating.

**WELCA:** Joan reported Circles are meeting.

Approve Board and Committee reports Karen McConville/Einar Hanson M/S/C.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Protect Our Ministry Background Check Judy reported this account ends February 24, 2016 and had checked with the Presbyterian Church about sharing the account and the cost. After discussion, a motion was made. "Move to maintain Protect Our Ministry for only Mt. Zion." Shelly Hallen/Jackie Anderson M/S/C Judy will tell Pastor Stephanie.

### Fellowship/Fundraising Designation Policy

Einar presented the policy he drafted:

"Thank you for providing a light snack for fellowship hour. Here are some guidelines that the Church Council has approved for your generous donation of time and food. If you request a free-will donation, you are entitled to reimburse yourself for the cost of food and beverage you provide. You are also entitled to give any portion of the donations to the church's general fund or to the cause of your choice *that is ministry related*. If you intend to give all or part of the donations to a cause of your choice *that is ministry related*, we encourage you to announce that through a sign at the food table. A sign holder is available for that purpose. Motion by Einar Hanson/Melody Wahlberg. During the discussion, Jackie asked about someone who may want to raise money for their child's trip outside of church, and a friendly amendment was added "that is ministry related". M/S/C

### Capital Appeal Campaign 2016

A small group met with Gene Orr and his partner (Gene's former boss) who formed the Harrison Group. Council members were asked to write down things that we can now do at Mt. Zion because of our new space and it will be put into a brochure. Jim Johnson will check to find out other groups that do Capital Appeals. Mt. Zion needs to decide by March who they will choose to help conduct the upcoming campaign. Should have quotes by the February meeting.

Healthy Start Council Retreat at Mt. Zion Gather at 6pm, eat at 6:15, meeting 6:30.

Defibrillator will be ordered. President Nicole checked and the cost is still \$1299.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### Council Authorization to Sell Stock and Assignment of Individuals for Stock Sales

Stocks were donated to the church as part of a member's yearly pledge. "The Church Council appoints Joan Christopher and Robin Arneson to represent Mt. Zion concerning Sale of Stock." Einar Hanson/Karen McConville M/S/C

### **COMMENTS for the GOOD of OUR COMMUNITY:**

Jackie: There will be a website upgrade soon.

Melody: Picture Directories are in and will be available Sunday.

Melody calls the people who sign the Visitor's book, often leaving a voice mail message. Some have called back saying they are excited about the church and enjoyed Pastor Erin!

Jackie: Mt. Zion will be added to the recipients of Smile Amazon where a portion can be designated to go to Mt. Zion.

Next meeting is Tuesday, February 9 at 7pm at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church.

Motion made to adjourn at 8:24pm Jim Johnson/Sonja Johnson M/S/C

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Jones

Council Secretary