

**Christ the King Lutheran Church  
Church Council Meeting Minutes  
September 18, 2017**

**Voting Members Present:** Pastor Langknecht, Leigh Chowdhary, Tom Cooper, Tom Kalka, Mitch Kiffe, Jeanne McKinley, Allie Peters, Marie Petersen, Mark Spoto, Bob Unger, and Allen Wild.

**Voting Members Absent:** Steve Wilson and Bill Hiatt

**Others Present:** Heidi Toloczko, Rev. Philip Hirsch, and Christy Hartigan.

Pastor Langknecht opened the meeting with prayer.

**Call to Order:** President Kiffe called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. with a quorum present.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion by Mark Spoto to accept the minutes of the August 22, 2017, Church Council meeting was seconded. **Motion carried.** The minutes were emailed prior to the meeting.

**Presentation:** Christy Hartigan, a representative of the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod of the ELCA, introduced “New Connections” which is a synod-wide campaign with the goal of connecting 3,000 new people from diverse backgrounds to the Christian life of the synod’s churches over the next three years that would increase the participants in congregations by ten percent. A video was shown that explained the campaign.

The Rev. Philip Hirsch, Assistant to the Bishop and Director for Evangelical Mission, explained the program. The seventy-five congregations in the synod with thirty thousand members are urged to participate in this campaign by selecting two members of their congregations to serve as Congregational Leaders for Engagement and Stewardship who will attend a Congregational Leader Training Event in the area. The individual congregations will set a three-year growth goal as well as a financial goal. The Engagement Leader will help the congregation to identify their strengths in engaging people and expand ministry opportunities in the surrounding community. The Stewardship Leader working with the Church Council, at an appropriate time, will conduct a five to six week financial gifts campaign culminating in the seeking of three-year pledges from families of the congregation to support the program.

After discussion and questions, Rev. Hirsch urged the council to make a decision about the willingness to participate in the campaign by the end of the year. Allen Wild suggested that Kristine Heine and Dick Waddian be approached to fill the leadership positions.

**Reports:** The Ministry Activity Reports were emailed to Church Council Members before the meeting.

**Pastor:** Karen Utter is now in the church office as Administrator. The African congregation is not interested in a Great Falls location as the transportation from Maryland is an issue. The Staff review will be conducted. The Worship Committee is planning the rest of the year’s services. Witness Committee will be asked to take care of name tags. At the next meeting, the ideas by Pastor Langknecht for the Mutual Ministry/Staff Relations Committee will be discussed.

**President:** The trail easement will be done by Luminous Star in conjunction with the developer of the housing project next to the church. The easement is owned by Fairfax County and Christ the King will not be responsible for liability, insurance or maintenance. Tom Cooper is meeting with the involved parties.

**Vice President:** The Long Range Planning Committee will be formed. Previous documents that are in Pastor's office will be given to Mark Spoto for the committee's information.

**Treasurer:** Bill Unger reviewed the reports that were emailed to the council before the meeting.

**King's Kids:** Heidi Toloczko commented on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of King's Kids and the letter written by Carol Mosier, the first Director of the program.

**Property:** Tom Cooper indicated that there will be changes to the Facility Use Policy in the areas of congregational events, general use by members, non-profit and profit groups use, and the use of liquor during social events. The council will discuss and vote on these changes at the next council meeting.

**Stewardship:** Tom Kalka is working on a theme for the campaign that will be continued throughout the year.

**Finance:** Allen Wild reported that 121 Giving Units Statements were sent out in April, 2017. The budget is short \$27,000. The council accepted Allen's 2018 Budget Schedule. The schedule will be mailed to committee chairs by the Church Council Secretary as a reminder during the first week of October. A discussion of service projects and special giving will be discussed at the next council meeting.

**Learning:** Leigh Chowdhary indicated that the committee is requesting a donation for a computer for adult learning use. It was suggested that parents who drop off their children for Sunday School should be invited to come in for coffee, hear a speaker, etc.

**Dates:**

October 8, 2017 - Blessing of the Animals service at 11 a.m.

October 16, 2017 - Church Council Meeting

**Adjournment:** A motion by Allen Wild to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. was seconded. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Petersen  
Church Council Secretary

Approved