

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 30, 2011

Voting members in attendance: 75

CALLED TO ORDER at 5:41 p.m. by Keith Selbrede.

OPENING PRAYER and devotion by Pastor John Soyster. 1Thessalonians 2:13: God's work at work in us.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of 2010 annual meeting by unanimous proclamation.

Welcome and thanks to Fellowship Committee for Chili Cook-off.

PASTORS' REPORTS

Pastor Erik Goehner: Appreciative of our Mission Statement when he was recently interviewed by The Acorn for a series newspaper is doing. He was able to easily speak about many of the ways Mount Cross is active and noteworthy.

- Knowing God: educational ministries preschool, kindergarten blessing, First Communion class moved to earlier age, confirmation 12 to 25 students per night and encouraging students participate in service and in community service, high school trip to Special K Ranch in Montana, bridging Sunday morning with activities at other times, adult ed was Bible survey, this year "Making Sense of Scriptures," Women's Bible study with Jenny Christensen
- Knowing God through care: meals for student ministers, Stephen leaders, meals for moms,
- Knowing God through compassion: See annual report for statistical data. Also started serving Many Meals for those in need.
- Creative worship: summer of service including children's ministry, classic rock worship service, dance incorporated into worship

Pastor John Soyster: Privileged to serve another year. Mission statement grows out of core values. Activities of the congregation must relate to those core values. To nurture one of those, our intimacy with God, our theme this year is Journey to the Center of the Soul. Pastor John described the infinity symbol as illustrating being sent out by Jesus and being called back by Jesus. Last year emphasized the outward journey. This year we will emphasize the calling back in to nurture and renew ourselves but not neglecting the service we do.

TREASURER'S 2010 FINANCIAL REPORT by Randy Churchill: Congratulate each other on a great 2010. Net membership and an increased number of pledges and dollar amounts are substantial. Changes have been made in Treasurer's job. New Treasurer will be Jessica Rebbe who brings special skills to the job. Marilyn will be doing much of the bookkeeping tasks. Thanks to Bob Winters who served so long and faithfully.

Income Statement and Balance Sheet were reviewed. These reports are available in the Annual Report. For budget this year we are able to make improvements in finances such as accelerate mortgage payments, close the gap between pastors' actual salaries and synod standards.

APPROVAL OF 2011 BUDGET by Susan Prosser: Council has moved to approve budget. Motion was seconded by Linette Angelastro. Remarks by Susan Prosser: We must recognize The Source of all our blessings and need for careful stewardship. This is the first time we've had a \$500,000

budget. This year's great response to the stewardship drive allows first budget growth since 2008 budget. Highlights of budget changes and line items reported:

- Benevolence first. 6.5% of budgeted expenses. Mission support increasing 1% per year as is usual and customary for our congregation. Marked increase in Lutheran Social Services giving. Discontinuing Emmanuel Santa Paula since that congregation has been absorbed by the Episcopal parish in Santa Paula.
- Salaries and benefits largest portion and operating expenses are 65.8% of budget.
- Operating expenses are 22.8% of budget. Increased due to planned acceleration of mortgage payments and establishment of deferred maintenance and contingency accounts.
- Funding for all other activities and programs that the congregation does comes from the residual 5% of the budget. This includes an increase in Worship and Music for instrument maintenance and occasional hiring of instrumental musicians. New Member activity has healthy budget to further develop member growth.

No discussion. 2011 proposed budget approved by unanimous proclamation.

Chili cook-Off results: Those who brought chili were honored with medallions distributed by the Fellowship Committee. Special awards were also given:

- Best flavor: Kate Fisher
- All-around: Anne Valencia
- Hottest : Josh Graziani

PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES by Keith Selbrede

The changes proposed are to allow voting by acclamation and to change wording to reflect Mount Cross has been operating.

Randy Churchill moved to accept bylaw changes as proposed on page 37 of the Annual Report.

Norm Williamsen requested that the proposed bylaw changes be dealt with one-by-one, not as a group.

Section I S1.07 d: moved, seconded, unanimously approved.

Section II h: moved, seconded, unanimously approved.

Section III S3.01 including a-e: moved, seconded, unanimously approved.

S3.02: moved, seconded, unanimously approved.

S3.04: moved, seconded, unanimously approved.

S3.06: moved, seconded. Norm Williamsen is concerned about transparency of ELCA. Other congregations may have different problems. Norm hopes everyone will vote against this proposal. Question arises whether this statement will be replaced by what will be done. Jim Prosser proposed that the nominating committee include its slate in the annual report and at the meeting additional nominations could be received from the floor. Discussion that sometime there may be dissension or this would not allow everyone to know issues at stake on short notice. Recommended language change:

"All nominations shall be made to the congregation no less than 2 Sundays prior and shall be included in the congregational newsletter or other written notice at least 10 days prior to election."

Moved, seconded, unanimously approved.

S3.07: Proposed change to section: "If the number of nominees for any position exceeds the number of available positions, that election shall be by written ballot." Moved, seconded, unanimously approved.

S3.08: moved, seconded, unanimously approved.

Section VI 2: moved, seconded, unanimously approved.

Section VII S7.02: moved, seconded, unanimously approved.

ELECTIONS

To be done by new rules this evening.

Church Council: 9 openings on Council; 7 nominations on ballot. Youth representative still continuing. Persons who would like to serve on Council may put themselves forward instead of waiting to be contacted/nominated! Nominations closed. Moved to accept proposed ballot including Susan Prosser, Carol Paul, Allison Easley, Stan Patscheck, Norman Williamsen, Bill Stoll. Bob Brundage is nominated to complete one year term. Seconded and approved by unanimous proclamation.

Nominating committee: 5 openings for 1-year term. Geri Bradley, Char Sakioka, Patti Stouch, Arlene Proctor, Keith Selbrede. Nominations closed. Approved unanimously.

Voting Members, Synod Assembly: 3 openings for 1-year term. Nominees are Gordon Henry, Melissa Henry, and Gayle Johnson. Geordan Goebel was nominated from the floor and he accepted. Motion to close nominations was made. Election by written ballot: Melissa, Gordon Henry, Gayle Johnson elected.

Mediation Board: 3 openings for 1-year term. Nominees are Barbara Meyer, Nils Rueckert, Karen Thomton. A motion to close nominations was made.

Unanimous approval by proclamation.

Endowment Committee: 1 opening for a 3-year term. Nominee is Susan Ingram. No additional nominations. Unanimous approval by proclamation.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Directory update. Looking for additional members for this task force.

Motion to adjourn moved, seconded, and approved by unanimous proclamation at 7:30 p.m.

CLOSING by Pastor Erik Goehner
Prayer and blessing.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Paul
Church Council Secretary