

# Christus Church Council Minutes

Thursday, April 6, 2017

---

Members: Amy Wierschke (2018), De Dalum (2018), Jeff Arps (2019), Larry Bentle (2019), Lois Posselt (2019), Luke Zuleger (2019), & Pastor Jen

Excused: Bob Hicks (2018)

Guests: Christine Loppnow, Melissa Prochnow, Jim Borowski, and Ed Bush

President Amy Wierschke called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Pastor Jen led the opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes – Luke made a motion to approve the minutes and Larry seconded it. Motion carried.

Approval of Current Agenda – The current agenda was reviewed. We agreed to move discussions relating to the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and updating the membership roll to the top of the agenda. Jeff made a motion to approve the agenda and Luke seconded it. Motion carried.

## OLD BUSINESS:

- Highway 15 Update – Jim Borowski & Ed Bush: We are waiting for the State to send an updated, jurisdictional offer. Updates to the congregation will be provided once we have a firm offer available.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – Larry (on behalf of the BMT): Proposals for the celebration are to be submitted to the BMT. They have agreed to appropriate a sufficient amount to cover the cost of the celebration. They also suggested having a collection/fundraiser to help cover expenses.  
The BMT would also like the committee to create a mission statement for the celebration and to use it to promote Christus in the community.
- Same Gender Marriage:
  - Feedback from Members at Other Congregations: Christine and Larry talked to people at a local church who had gone through this decision making process and reported that the process used caused a great deal of dissent in the congregation.  
Jeff reported on a similar situation at a church in Winneconne where the council voted on the issue and decided the pastor could perform same gender marriages away from the church but not in the church.  
After some discussion, a motion was made by Larry that the Christus

Council would relinquish its authority to vote and make the final decision on the issue of same gender marriages at Christus to a congregational vote. Jeff seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Amy will draft an informational sheet covering ELCA policy on this issue and why the Christus Council is working to create a policy statement on this issue at this time. This statement will be available to the congregation by early fall. Council members will be available to answer questions between services for two Sundays and a congregational meeting and vote will take place shortly thereafter.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Updating Membership Rolls – Pastor Jen: People may be removed from the congregational roll if no contributions have been received for two years and the people are not in attendance. All the people on the list have been contacted as to their intentions. De made a motion to remove the people on the list from membership. Larry seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**CONCERNS FROM THE CONGREGATION:** None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

**CLOSING PRAYER:**

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Luke made a motion to adjourn and Larry seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 9:04pm

The next council meeting is scheduled for: Thursday, May 4, at 6:30pm.

The next All Ministry Team meeting is scheduled for: Tuesday, May 9, at 6:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted by De Dalum.