

*Approved by Council on August 25, 2014*  
**MINUTES**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Marlton, New Jersey**  
**June 30, 2014**

**Council Members Present:**

Pastor Overcash	Rebecca Keen (Learning)
Mark Duffy (President)	George King (Missions)
Peggy Roberts (Secretary/Support)	Bruce Easterly (Property)
Trish Suplee (Communicating the Faith)	Pat Holman (Social)
Rafael Orta (Finance)	Lisa Schaffer (Worship & Music)

**Council Members Absent:** Pastor Ballenger, Vicar Lauren Applegate, Peter Fong (Vice President/Youth & Family), Catherine Salender (Stewardship), Steve Smith (Parish Life), Jessica Korhumel (Youth Representative)

**Guest:** Kristina Orta

- **Council Devotions and Opening Prayers** were led by George King.
- **Approval of Minutes from Last Council Meeting**  
A motion was made by Bruce, seconded by George, to approve the minutes from the June 2, 2014 meeting. The motion passed.
- **Ministry Updates**
  - ✓ Are there updates to the ministry reports circulated before council? George reported that Missions would be taking lunch to New Visions on July 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - ✓ Are there ministries that have an area of focus this month? There were none to report this month.
  - ✓ Are there actions or guidance needed from council to support our ministries?
    - Communications: Trish reported that Pastor Ballenger attended the last Communications committee meeting. This ministry does not have a Chairperson at this time and will be focusing on projects. Because the Marlton Harvest Festival is the day before Pastor Overcash's retirement luncheon, participation at the Festival will be scaled back this year. There will not be a booth on Main Street but volunteers will be needed from the congregation to be parking lot attendants and pass out literature. Trish reported that she will now be changing the sign, although there are no phrases designated for next 3 months. Anyone with suggestions should contact Trish.
    - Youth Ministry: Youth Ministry is still looking for committee members and leaders for events.
    - Stewardship: Pat McCloud will chair the committee this year.

- Property- neighbor's fence, on-going property issues, priority list: Bruce reported that since the neighbor has not repaired the fence, the check has not yet been sent, per the agreement. Property work day will be July 19<sup>th</sup> and Communicating the Faith & Stewardship ministries are asked to help. A priority list of repairs/replacements is being worked on. Pastor Overcash asked about the roof leak in the Narthex and his office. Bruce stated that they have called the contractor who installed the roof just 2 years ago.

- **Report on the Financial Health of the Congregation**

Rafael and Kristina presented reports showing that we are a little below where we should be compared to budget. The incoming is just meeting the expenses. Kristina will check to see if we are paying the minimum or the old mortgage amount and get the mortgage pay-off date. Kristina will try to get an accounting of the designated memorial funds available for the next meeting. Mark will contact Mary Scout to clarify the actual memorial funds both designated and undesignated available. A motion was made by George, seconded by Pat, to approve the May Financial Secretary and Treasure's Reports. The motion passed.

- **Special Session: Review action steps for Goals of the Congregation**

- ✓ Discussion of Short Term Focus Areas (May – September 2014)
  - Support the Retirement Committee's work and congregation's transition
    - Committee Report: Peggy reported that sufficient funds have been collected for the mosaics and that the artist can begin on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Another mailing will be done in July with details of the celebration and luncheon on September 28<sup>th</sup>.
    - Time-line Aug.10 and Sept.14, and maybe 21: Pastor Ballenger will be contacting someone from Synod to facilitate the time line events. More information will be available in July.
- ✓ Strengthen the financial health of the congregation:
  - Visuals: Mark stated that he will do a visual for targeting attendance during the summer. He needs to review the data to set the target.
- ✓ Take actions that encourage the young families of the church community to come back to Sunday School/Youth Group in the fall:
  - Sunday School: Mark reported that Learning Ministry has a committee looking at new curriculum for Sunday School. To retain consistency in schedule, this year Sunday School will not start until October and there will be a big push for attendance. Discussion followed on continuing a summer single service schedule through September and starting the second Sunday service schedule in October. A motion was made by Lisa, seconded by Beckie, to continue the 9:30 service through Sept. 21 but Sept 28 service will be at 10:00. The motion passed.

- **Old Business**

- Report on Synod Assembly: Mark reported that he and his daughter attended the assembly. He found it interesting that there are only 10 churches throughout the whole synod (180 churches) that average over 200 people worshipping each Sunday. By NJ ELCA terms, POP is a big and healthy church. All resolutions which were presented passed, mainly about social justice and mission. He stated that he was proud to be there and was impressed with the Bishop.
- Highlighting Ministry of the month: Since our council packets already had a schedule for highlighting ministries, it was decided to use this schedule, starting with Worship & Music in December, and follow the schedule through the year. Some suggestions for ways to present your ministry are: temple talk, slides of ministry before church, and a visual display of what ministry does. This could also be used to recruit new members to your committee.
- Personnel Committee Approval: According to our by-laws, there were two members on the Personnel committee that should no longer be serving. Currently those on the committee are Shelby Mattioli and Sharon Elliott, along with Pat Holman and Mark Duffy from council. Nancy Korhumel and Russ Kramer agreed to serve. A motion was made by Peggy, second by Bruce, to appoint Nancy Korhumel and Russ Kramer to a 2 year term on the Personnel Committee. The motion passed.

- **New Business**

- Witnesses from the Congregation:
  - The anniversary celebration was enjoyed by all.
  - The group traveling with the Synod to Bosnia had life-changing experiences.
- Saturday Organist Resignation: Deb Zellers submitted her letter of resignation as Saturday organist effective July 15th. In the past, a recording made by Guy has been played at the Saturday service. Another option possible would be a rotating volunteer core of pianists so that one person would not be committed every week. Pat stated that as a member of the 5:30 service, she likes the pre-recorded organ music and it works well. A suggestion was made that we might want an organist when there is a baptism. Pastor Overcash noted that Guy does get paid to record the music for the Saturday service. Using volunteers would save money and give live music.
- Welcome to our new members, Ruth Manning and Allison Shingleton. A motion was made by George, seconded by Beckie, to accept these two people into our membership.
- Pastors, Vicar and Director of Music Reports: Pastor Overcash asked to be notified of anything that someone feels needs his attention before September 28th or of any people who should be talked with to discuss their feelings about the future. He is in the process of cleaning out his office and continues working with Pastor Ballenger on the transition.

- Correspondence: A letter was received from Barbara Quinlan requesting that her Aunt's memorial money be used for a digital sign instead of a new HVAC system, since the HVAC has been repaired. Bruce stated that this, along with the \$5000 from Dick Martin's memorial, is close to the financial goal for the new sign (approximately. \$20,000). This digital sign will be in the existing housing and can be changed from inside the building. There will be room for 3 lines of colored text, no graphics. Council asked to review the Property ministry's priority list for contingencies and emergencies before Property moves forward.
- Transfers: none
  
- **Reminders:**
  - Next meeting is August 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM**
  - Refreshments** to be provided by Youth and Family
  - Devotion leader** will be Pat Holman
  
- **Closing Prayer** was lead by Pastor Overcash followed by Passing of the Peace.