

**Minutes from the Congregational Meeting at Bethel Lutheran Church
On Sunday, August 24, 2008 (approved)**

Miki Wallace called the meeting to order at 12:19 pm.

There was a quorum: 76 members were present.

Pastor Randy Pabst opened the meeting with a prayer.

Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Presentation

Scott Anderson

Scott made the presentation for treasurer, David Tribby, who could not be present. The base expectation for our budget is \$880K with a challenge of \$15K for a total of \$895K. Scott explained the anticipated savings and the increases for FY2009. There are 315 giving units who give an average of \$225/month. In order to break even they would need to give \$242/month.

Scott said that the **Stewardship Committee** will revitalize the Faith Promise Program. In Tanzania there were two offerings: the first one for the regular church expenses, and the 2nd one as a thank offering.

We need to close the budget – income gap. The stewardship committee is planning Mission minutes at several services.

A motion was made to approve the budget. The motion was second. The motion passed.

Worship Revitalization Proposal

Pastors Randy Pabst and Rick Sherrill talked about the worship surveys. The worship task force visited other churches to see what they are doing. They found out that the other churches went through the same questions as we were.

In the surveys many people said that they felt disconnected from the people in the other service.

The new worship schedule will start on September 14, 2008:

9 am	Traditional Worship
9:15 am	Kid Connection after childrens message
	Adult Education #1
10-10:30 am	Fellowship Time
10:30 am	Contemporary Worship
	Adult Education #2

A motion was made to approve the new worship schedule. The motion was second. The **majority approved**, 4 members were opposed, there was one abstention.

The surveys also revealed that the current **Adult Education** classes are not serving everybody. We need to develop other programs.

Rick Sherrill will focus on adult education starting in September. He will start small group programs, that are running all year long, but have a short-term commitment. The goal is to have 20 small groups by Lent 2009. Each group has 10-20 people. There should be different themes and activities, e.g. walking group, Bible study...

Staffing

Better alignment is in process. Rick will focus on adult Ed., Junior High moved to the Youth Program. The new receptionist is Katie Novak.

Solar Project Update**Vern Bollesen**

The lights were replaced, as well as the air conditioners and furnace. The solar panels will be put in this week. The City of Cupertino sent us a bill charging for a special solar permits (\$5500). Vern and others are contacting the City to lower this bill. The solar produces 24 KW of DC power which equals 21KW of AC power. It is for the church building only.

New Business

The approval of the minutes from the January and May meetings were tabled, since only the May minutes were available.

New Initiatives

Green Initiative (see above).

Facilities

New Staff will be introduced in the service on September 14.

Pastor Rick Sherrill closed the meeting with a **prayer** at 1:10 pm.

Submitted by Hella Bluhm-Stieber

San Jose, September 2, 2008