

Council Study Group Meeting

November 30, 2009

4:00 p.m.

Rm. 112A

Present: Kurt Beenen, Dave Brauhn, Von Cary, Rick Erickson, Pastor Perry Fruhling, Pastor David Hagstrom, Chris Lindell, Jeff McGuire, Sue Pears on, Jan Rushford, Pastor Nan Trimpe, Pastor Jonathan Swenson

Visitors: Dan, Jody and Tara Skogen, Stephan Peck, Tammy Whitlow, Louanne Neville, Cindy Dunn, Jesse Vera, Louanne Neville, Karen Barth, Dana Hagstrom, Donna Lunstrum, Jane Lindell

Opening Prayer:

Chris Lindell opened with a prayer.

The meeting agenda was reviewed.

ELCA Discussion:

St. Mark's staff members were invited to give input to the Human Sexuality issue. Jesse Vera, Jody Skogen, Stephan Peck, Donna Lunstrum and Pastor Jonathan responded with their comments. Pastor Jonathan will email the Council additional comments.

Pastor Perry reviewed the proposal document sent to Council prior to the meeting. Considerable discussion and clarification of the proposed courses of action followed. Three key elements emerged on the topics of: joining LCMC; definition of marriage and the calling of pastors; direction of mission money.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Chris Lindell drafted a chart to summarize possible actions.

Suggested Council Resolutions:

- Affirm the vision and expectation that marriage is between a man and a woman, and that only pastors in that relationship will be called
- Study the on-going relationship to the ELCA
- Study how to be a more welcoming congregation

Senior Pastor:

- Prepare letter of implementation.

Suggested for Congregational Vote:

- Join LCMC (Y/N)
- 2010 budget for missions funding; change way missions receive funding— send directly to mission; send only “designated” mission dollars to ELCA.

Chris Lindell will refine the draft items and send to Council prior to the December 7 meeting. Confirming these actions will be the primary focus of the December meeting. Chris also intends to be in touch with Bishop Burk.

Other Business:

A short clarification of what items are appropriate for inclusion in Bylaws followed.

It was noted that January 10 and 17 are potential dates for Biblical forums. Suggested time is 1:30 p.m. Pastor Perry is confirming forum leader availability.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. to Monday, December 7, 4 p.m., at the home of Dave Evans.

Summarized by

Sue Pearson, Interim Council Secretary