

Minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting
University Lutheran Church of Hope
February 7, 2010

Pastor Craig Shirley opened at 12:05 by leading us in devotions. President Jack Dant welcomed us all and introduced Jennifer MacDonald, our volunteer parliamentarian.

Jack continued, reviewing the goodness of events of the past year. He challenged us all to identify our passions and apply them to this church's work in the year ahead.

As no one asked for a reading of the rules of the meeting, it was moved, seconded, and carried to adopt the rules. Jack explained that most votes will be voice votes with a simple majority carrying the day. Jack went on to explain voters' eligibility. There will be a ballot vote on one issue later on.

Minutes of last year's annual meeting were adopted by unanimous vote.

Treasurer Mike Fingerson presented the Treasurer's report, which he delivered with the help of a computer projector and his lovely assistant. Mike clarified that, even though finances are important, people are the main thrust of this ministry. He went on to outline the various funds the church keeps. In 2009 we ended up with an about \$7,000 loss; he explained that we always aim for zero at the end of any given year.

In 2009, revenue was below budget, but as expenses were lower as well, the overall loss was relatively small. Jack ask for, and received, a motion to accept the Treasurer's report into the record; this was seconded and carried.

President Jack Dant brought up the proposed change to the bylaws. He explained the procedure; a voice-vote with a simple majority to adopt. Kathy Knudson asked for the purpose of ruling that facilities keeping depreciation information. Kelli Johnson and Mark Nelson spoke to this issue. Kathy went on to ask about how chairs of non-board leaders are elected, as the current iteration of the bylaws does not address this. President Jack Dant replied that this will be addressed as 2010 continues. It was moved, seconded, and carried to adopt the proposed changes in the bylaws.

For the next vote, by ballot, all non-voters were asked to move to the periphery of the room. Jack reminded us that this is the second vote on the issue at hand; the first vote passed last year; a passing vote this time ratifies the changes to the constitution. Jack asked for a motion to adopt the proposed administrative changes to the constitution. David Ranheim asked if there were any new issues brought up during the past year, things that may alter our path; Jack replied that there have been none. Leroy Halvorsen spoke, indicating his opposition to the liberal changes proposed. The motion passed with a single dissenting vote.

Moving on to the more substantive vote, Jack indicated David Ranheim and Garvin Davenport will count the ballots; he asked for 3 volunteers to observe the counting. He received those volunteers.

Jack called our attention to handouts on the table outlining the changes. When asked, Jack read the proposed changes.

David Ranheim moved we adopt the proposed substantive changes. This was seconded. Jack explained the word “Yes” on the ballot indicates acceptance of the changes; “No” indicated rejection. Jack went on to report the changes, if passed, take effect in 120 days. The vote having been taken, the counters and observers retired to the other room.

Treasurer Mike Fingerson returned to the floor to outline the 2010 budget, proposed by the Executive Committee. A few people left the meeting to prepare copies of the proposed budget while Mike continued with his big-screen presentation. (Mike reported the Pease Academy has signed a new contract and will be with us for the next 3 years.)

Mike moved on to the balance sheet, pointing out that we have a substantial amount of cash in the bank; we also have a substantial surplus in the Invitation to Hope Building Fund. We were lucky in that 2 expenses, the sound system and the new sanctuary roof, came in WAY less than anticipated.

Back to the budget, the first month on record for 2010, January, came in about \$6,000 below budget. He went on with the presentation, indicating the proposed 2010 budget is really pretty similar to 2009's. People costs and Operations are the lion's share of the budget. People costs are pretty similar to last year; Operations was quite a bit over budget last year due to some unexpected maintenance costs. Other areas are holding fairly close to 2009.

Mike presented a slide comparing pledges against actual giving, showing the ratio between the two for the last 3 years plus 2010. Actual giving has declined somewhat year-by-year for the last 3 years.

Mike further clarified that whereas we missed budget last year, we are in a solid financial shape with plenty of cash on hand. Mark Nelson pointed out that, with the disappointing January performance, we had better keep a sharp eye on the trend and have a “Plan B” at the ready in case this continues after Easter. Kathy Knudson asked why Operations was so far over budget; Mike mentioned the break-in and some masonry work. Evan Peterson also reminded us our janitorial expense was moved from salaries to operations.

President Jack Dant asked for a motion to accept the updated Treasurer's report; this was moved, seconded, and carried. Jack asked for, and got, a motion to accept the budget. This was seconded. John Lauber asked that we put into the record a mandatory post-Easter review. We voted to adopt the budget as proposed. John now moved the Vision & Governance Board do that proposed re-visitation and take appropriate steps. This was seconded. Mark Nelson asked that there be public disclosure in the form of a forum or

other means to disseminate the results. Our parliamentarian reminded us that the Vision & Governance Board cannot change the budget; they'd have to call a congregational meeting to adopt a new budget. John indicated his acceptance of this amendment. The motion was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Results are in on the constitutional change. There were 78 votes cast, 52 were needed to pass; 71 voted yes, 7 voted no; the constitutional change was adopted.

Recognition. Garvin Davenport and Bob Moluf were recognized for their role in the presidential track. Dan O'Loughlin, Leslie Frost, Ann Agrimson, & Tom Frost have all completed their fine work.

Jack recognized retiring Administrator Craig Wiester to standing applause. He also introduced the new Administrator Gayle Bidne.

Mark Nelson recognized Mare & Leroy Halvorsen for their work as offering counters for 23 years.

President Jack Dant presented the slate of candidates, adding Madhu Bhat as a Vision & Governance Board member and liaison to Education. The slate was adopted by unanimous consent.

Jack turned the gavel over to our new congregational president, Gregg Landmark.

Gregg thanked Jack for his great service during tough conditions.

Pastor Craig Shirley asked for help in the cleanup. Ruth Fingerson plugged her People of Hope column, soliciting information. Craig M. Wiester responded by announcing former pastor Kwanza Yu's new assignment at an English-language congregation in Tokyo.

Pastor Shirley took the microphone and plugged the Lenten series, studying the Lord's Prayer. Ash Wednesday is only 10 days off.

Pastor Shirley then led us in the Lord's Prayer to adjourn.