

**PASTORAL SEARCH TEAM
MEETING MINUTES
Calvary Lutheran Church
Thursday, September 29, 2011
7:00 P.M.**

Present: Grace Gunnlaugsson, Larry Bonier, Ron Foster, Kim Steiner, Janet Zastrow, Erica Zipp, Andy Schatz, Peggy Langelin, Mark Nyka, Pastor Cathi Braasch

Note: The Pastoral Search Team met with Chris Brauns, author of “When the Word Leads Your Pastoral Search”, on Tuesday, September 27th.

Opening Prayer & Devotion

- The meeting was opened with prayer.

Business

- Minutes & agenda approved.
- The team shared highlights of our Tuesday Chris Brauns meeting with Pastor Cathi
 - Word centered – Martin Luther’s responses to events
 - Incrementalism will not work
 - The cost of moving forward is conflict
 - Chris suggested getting administrative help; we felt that with our team we had enough people that were retired and able to keep up that we do not need to hire outside secretarial help
 - Don’t get sloppy about the details – have everything in writing!
 - Cost of failure: “You can’t overpay the *right* person & you can’t underpay the *wrong* person.”
 - We need a leader – probe into past experience
 - We can profile the person we need, but we can’t have everything! (Jesus isn’t looking for the job!)
 - He suggested we broaden our search much beyond NALC resources, including other synods; however, because of his non-denominational background, he did not have the same understanding of the requirements placed on pastors within a particular Lutheran synod (i.e. Pastors must be rostered in the NALC.)
 - Overall, the team felt that the time spent with Chris Brauns was well worth it!
- The team formulated a mission statement: (should be an action, not a sentiment)
To discern and call whom God has chosen for Calvary and to prepare the congregation to recognize and receive this person.

- Pastor Cathi shared information about the dynamics of congregations in transition and what that means for Calvary
- Some of the PST members will meet with the Bishop on 10/30 along with the deacons at lunch on Sunday, from 12-1 pm in room 109.
- A sub-committee was formed to work on the Congregation Strategic Plan
 - Pr. Cathi, Larry Bonnier, Ron Foster, Kim Steiner, Erica Zipp (editor)
 - Begin meeting Thursday, Oct. 6 at 1:30 pm
- We will investigate various forms of private online media sharing formats for the PST to view materials from candidates, to share notes, and to comment; the target date to have this is the first November meeting
- We discussed how to handle information sharing regarding issues with former pastors; questions will be referred to Pr. Cathi as an unbiased and pastoral source of this information
- The congregational survey has been pushed to after Christmas as we need the Strategic Plan first to formulate questions

Future Meetings

- Next meeting will be Thursday, October 13, 2011. (Was subsequently moved it to Wednesday, October 19th.)

Closing

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 pm.

Respectfully, prayerfully & joyfully submitted,

Kim Steiner
Recording Secretary