

# **BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH**

## Board of Directors Regular Monthly Meeting

August 16, 2011

Call to Order: Chairman Mark Bernthal called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.

Attendees: Mark Bernthal, John Moldenhauer, Bob Svehla, Gene Roy, Sonja Burkett and Pastor Hass. Miriam Gustaf was absent.

Devotion: Pastor led the Board in a devotion based on Ephesians 6:10-20 where Paul, while chained in a Roman prison, writes to the church at Ephesus about being ambassadors for Jesus Christ. We have a commission and a duty to do likewise.

Minutes of Previous Meetings: The minutes from the July 26, 2011 BOD meeting were amended and approved for publication. The minutes of the special August 13, 2011 BOD meeting were approved for publication as submitted.

Pastor's Report: Pastor reported that the 2010 audit has been completed. He will provide profit and loss statements for fiscal 2009 and 2010 and will report how the Joplin relief funds will be dispersed from the Cash Reserve Fund. He reviewed the financial condition through July and an end of the year financial forecast. Our goal is to end the year with expenses on budget.

Pastor reported on the completion of certain projects that were approved at the 2010 Annual Meeting. They include repairs to the parking lot which were done in the Fall of 2010 and the sealant caulking project which was done in June of this year. He provided a detailed report on the status of our 15 air conditioning units. One heat pump was replaced early in 2010. A second one was replaced around December 2010. A combination air conditioner/gas furnace was replaced in November 2008. The remaining twelve units are more than 14 years old. The annual preventative maintenance check will be done in September. The 2012 proposed budget provides for replacing at least one unit annually.

The proposed 2012 budget will be available to BOD members on Thursday, August 18th, and the 2012 Ministry Plan will be available to the Board on Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Attendance is steadily increasing toward our goal of 315 worshipers in church. Pastor announced that about a dozen people will join the church in the near future. Witness contacts have become so much a part of who we are and what we do that they are no longer being reported. Pastor is considering how to expand this endeavor into the congregation next year as we encourage all members to connect others to Jesus and our church.

Guiding Principle AP 1.1.2 Church Feedback and Assessment states in part "Every three years, or less, the Board of Directors will arrange a full church assessment by a competent consulting group." It was agreed that \$2,000 should be added to the proposed 2012 budget for this purpose.

Pastor reviewed the Staff calendar and noted that we may be able to have an Oktoberfest/church picnic on October 16<sup>th</sup> across the highway from the church where the Annual Craft Fair takes place.

In conjunction with an upcoming review of the Guiding Principles, Pastor suggested that the Board also review the church's Vision Statement with the purpose of increasing and strengthening its use in 2012.

The Communications Ministry Team has selected a new church logo that incorporates "Connect, Grow, Serve" into our church name. It will be ready for use in all media in September.

Open Discussion: Mark announced the schedule for the Senior Pastor Evaluation. Evaluations from BOD members are due to him by September 25<sup>th</sup>. The Board will review the compiled evaluation information at a special meeting between services on Sunday, October 2, 2011.

In a review of the Guiding Principles, the Board determined that, to avoid an inconsistency with the draft Bylaws, the following sentence should be added to AP 1.3.5: Annual Goals of the Senior Pastor: "The Board of Directors will determine which of the measurable goals will be used for purposes of the Board's compensation and incentive schedule."

Mark reviewed the calendar for the next two months leading up to the Annual Meeting. He reaffirmed plans for a special congregational meeting to vote on the Joplin relief proposal between services on Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. He will announce that the draft Constitution and Bylaws are in members' mailboxes, that they have been submitted to the Mid-South District officials for review, that an open forum to discuss the documents is scheduled for Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. with a vote on them at the Annual Meeting on October 23rd. He will develop a cover letter for the documents this week in preparation for their distribution. If approved, they must be reviewed again by District officials. The newly adopted Constitution and Bylaws would become effective January 1, 2012.

Mark informed the Board that he received information from a New Orleans LCMS congregation seeking support for victims of Hurricane Katrina. It was decided that a notice would be published in the Sunday announcements encouraging members of support this endeavor individually if they so choose.

Next Meetings, Prayer Assignment and Adjournment: The Board will hold a special meeting on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, at 9 a.m. to review the 2012 proposed Ministry Plan and budget. The next regular meeting is September 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Mark will lead the closing prayer at that meeting. After a closing prayer led by Sonja, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sonja Burkett, Secretary