

**Seeds of Faith Council Regular Meeting
March 30, 2008
Hope Lutheran Church, Rush Center, Kansas**

Council members present: Rhonda Templing and Sharon Custer (Emmanuel), Raymond George (First), Karlene Buechman and Ted Byrum (Garfield), Wes Hemken and Penny Riedel (Hope), and Jerry Dirks and Stan Ewy (Peace).

Others present: Pastor Steve, Pastor Maggie, and Vicar David; Art Riedel (treasurer); two visitors.

President Jerry Dirks called the meeting to order at 3:10 P.M.

Vicar David gave the opening prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting (January 13, 2008) were read and approved.

Vicar David gave his report. He has completed one online course (Revelation) last month and has begun another three-month online course (Lutheran Confessions). The internship committee will conduct a 6-month review on Wednesday, April 2 at 6:00 P.M. at Hope Lutheran Church, Rush Center.

Pastor Steve handed out his report for the months of February and March. Opportunity was given for members to ask questions about the report. He showed the members the Seeds of Faith seal. Pastor Steve also offered a taste of Golden Angelica sacramental wine—a golden colored wine that will not stain altar cloths or vestments. Mention was made of the Smoky Hills Winery in Salina that also makes sacramental wine.

Art Riedel handed out the treasurer's report and a spread sheet for each congregation showing its contributions to date. After discussion of the report, it was received subject to the annual audit.

Sharon Custer asked that congregations put their events on the online calendar. Stan Ewy said he had done so. Deb Reif* of Emmanuel is willing to add events for those who prefer not to add their own. The calendar is only as good as the information on it. It can be printed.

The revised Seeds of Faith budget has been approved by all congregations.

Pastor Steve reported that there is no chance that SOF will get another intern this year. **The council authorized him to put in an application for an intern for 2009.** There are three fewer seminarians assigned to the Central States Synod than they had hoped. Priority wise, SOF has been "bumped up" rather than down. The obstacles to our getting another pastor are that there are more pastors retiring than coming into the synod and the issues of spousal employment, schools for children, and salary. If CSS does not have someone for us, we might want to send out letters on our own.

Ted Byrum is the new vice president; his term is for two years. Sharon Custer will complete the 2nd year of Terri Rous's 2-year term as secretary. Terri is no longer a representative of the council from Emmanuel. Rhonda Templing was appointed by Emmanuel's council to take her place.

Pastor Steve advised the council that he will be having surgery on April 9. The best case scenario is that it will take 3-5 weeks to recover. The parish has an obligation to pay him for 8 weeks. He told the council his tentative plans for covering parish activities while he is unavailable.

The CSS is sponsoring a parish summit on May 3, 2008, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Hoisington, Kansas.

Pastor Maggie suggested we have a table at the synod assembly. The cost is \$25.00. **The council approved this suggestion.** Pastor Maggie will arrange for the table, and Penny Riedel will prepare a display board and bookmarks to hand out.

Stan Ewy will e-mail prices for SOF banners in case individual congregations want to order them. He will also e-mail prices for other clothing items.

The council approved a parish activities committee. Each congregation is to appoint two members to this committee (not council members) and e-mail those names to Jerry Dirks.

Pastor Steve proposed that we look into a parish-wide directory. **The council approved looking into the matter.**

The council asked that SOF minutes be put on the SOF Web site. The secretary will do so.

The next regular meeting of the SOF council is **June 1, 2008, at 3:00 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church in Albert.**

Following the praying of The Lord's Prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Sharon Custer, Secretary

*Note: Deb Reif died in April.