

Minutes from Congregational Meeting - Nov. 26, 1976

The second regular congregational meeting of 1976 of United Evangelical Church was called to order at 8:05p.m. by President George Tuerk. In attendance were 34 members and the Rev. W. Scott Hengen, III.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Hengen. The minutes from the January, 1976 meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Tuerk then called on the Treasurer, Mr. William Single, III to present the proposed budget for 1977. Mr. Single said that he would go through the categories and take questions at the end of each one. Each category changed as follows:

Salaries-increased by \$2,940.00
Maintenance-Church-increased by \$2,750.00
Maintenance-Parsonage-decreased by \$2,950.00
Other Church Expenses-increased by \$570.00

At this point Mr. Clarence Rowell asked if it was wise to decrease the social security tax when salaries had been increased. Mr. Single explained that the Pastor's salary was exempt so the \$940 allocated should be sufficient. The remaining categories were then given.

Pastoral Expenses-decreased by \$1,453
Special Church Expenses-decreased by \$250
Benevolence Fund-no change

The total proposed budget for 1977 was \$65,085 representing an increase of \$1,607 over the budget for 1976. Mr. Rowell moved that the proposed budget be adopted and Mr. William Voelker seconded it. The motion was carried unanimously.

The next order of business was the election of council members. Mr. Tuerk said that six people were to be elected and only six had volunteered. He opened the floor for nominations but there were none. Each candidate was asked to stand. The six candidates were John Bond, Willoughby Myrick, George Sauer, Randy Schmitt, Marie Voelker and Carole Weidel.

Mr. Louis Parker, Jr. made a motion that the six candidates be elected by affirmation. It was seconded and approved unanimously.

Mr. Tuerk said that the church council had discussed whether or not to change the date of Confirmation. The choices were either Palm Sunday or Pentecost. It was felt that the congregation should make the decision.

Pastor Hengen said that he knew the tradition of the church was to confirm on Palm Sunday. He went on to say that there were good reasons for doing it either way, but confirming on Pentecost gave a longer period of time for teaching.

Mr. Single wanted to know if the motion would cover one year or a long period of time. Mr. Tuerk felt it would be for one year. Mr. Walsh said that that would mean we

would have to vote every year. Mr. Parker said that he felt we were going to establish a pattern.

Pastor Hengen said that he had polled both Confirmation classes as well as their parents. The second year class preferred to be confirmed on Pentecost while the first year class preferred Palm Sunday.

Mr. Rowell made a motion that we confirm on Pentecost until it is deemed necessary to change. Mr. Parker seconded it. Mr. Single asked Mr. Rowell the reason for his motion. Mr. Rowell said that he felt we were paying Pastor Hengen as a professional and he seemed to favor confirming on Pentecost. Mr. Single felt that ten months of instruction per year for two years was too much.

Several people said that it made no difference to them since they had no children to be confirmed.

Mr. Robert Gundlach said that he thought Palm Sunday was the best date because the children were out of school and they had time to think about being confirmed.

The vote was taken and the motion was carried 13 to 11.

There was no unfinished business.

Mr. Tuerk then called for new business.

Mrs. Gundlach wanted to know the results from the papers placed in the bulletin about proposed changes. Mr. Tuerk said that the report had been prepared and was available in the church office. It could be gotten, studied and brought up in the January meeting.

Pastor Hengen went over the results in summary form. He said that he felt the congregation was doing well due to the slight increase in church attendance.

Mr. Tuerk reminded the newly elected council members that they were to be present at the December council meeting. He thanked the retiring members saying that he had had a good relationship with all of them.

There being no other business Mr. Voelker motioned that we adjourn and Mr. Oberlander seconded it. The motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy J. Schmitt
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